

IN THE PINK

Setting the style for a colourful summer

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MATTHEW PARRIS

Setting the stage for a modern Babylon

Has the media gone too far? Page 16



VALENTINES

What Squiggle Pops thinks of Bobbles

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30P

THE TIMES

No. 64,678 MONDAY FEBRUARY 14 1994

Clamour for change as MP quits

Major stays on back to basics trail

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

■ The back to basics slogan may have rebounded on the Government but Tory MPs accept it would be virtually impossible to abandon the crusade

JOHN MAJOR is to plough on with his back-to-basics campaign, even though he is under increasing pressure to drop it after the latest embarrassing disclosures about Baroness Thatcher's successor as MP for Finchley.

Some MPs say the atmosphere among backbenchers is bordering on hysteria after Hartley Booth's resignation as a ministerial aide over his relationship with his former House of Commons research assistant. But neither the growing clamour from worried Tories nor an opinion poll suggesting back to basics should be abandoned has persuaded ministers to abandon the slogan. They say the battle for a return to common sense values will continue.

It will, however, [illegible] almost exclusively on such issues as education, law and order and the economy, and there will be no attempt to portray it as any kind of moral crusade. "It was never meant as a return to Victorian values, but the concept will not be ditched," a senior Conservative strategist said last night.

Mr Booth, who stepped down as parliamentary private secretary to the Foreign Office minister Douglas Hogg, said yesterday that he had gone "to save any embarrassment to the Government". The MP, a 47-year-old Methodist lay preacher, denied any sexual impropriety with Emily Barr, 22, a former art model who worked for him recently.

Finchley Tories rallied to their MP yesterday, and the constituency chairman, Ron Thurlow, said Mr Booth should not have lost his job. "I think he has been a fool. He knows he has been a fool," Mr Thurlow said. "It is a lapse that is completely out of character and that is the end of it. I don't know why he had to resign over this: everybody flirts, don't they.

"Perhaps he should have offered his resignation — but why was it accepted? If he was doing a good job, then whoever it was should have said 'I quite understand this. Publish and be damned.' I can only think it is because of the current climate."

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, criticised the press for "harrying and pillorying" people like Mr Booth, and other senior Tories said that had the romance been disclosed a few weeks ago, it is unlikely that Mr Booth would have had to resign. But coming after several weeks of embarrassment for the Government and Mr Major's warning to the 1922 Committee that he would take a tougher line with errant MPs and ministers, there was no choice.

A poll in *The Sunday Telegraph* yesterday suggested that 64 per cent of people believed that the Conservatives now gave the impression of being "very sleazy and disreputable" and 39 per cent said recent scandals would affect how they voted at the next election. Only 30 per cent thought the back-to-basics campaign should continue, while 56 per cent said it should be dropped. Finchley Conservatives questioned yesterday also felt that the idea should be "quietly forgotten".

Conservative MPs admitted last night that the latest incident left the back-to-basics slogan looking even more tattered, but they accepted that it would be virtually impossible for the Government to drop it. "We must continue to follow the original idea of stressing the importance of traditional values and hope that the ballyhoo over morals dies down," a strategist said.

Mr Booth had originally denied the reports about his relationship with Miss Barr, but he changed his version of events when he was shown copies of love poems that he had written. "On the Richter scale, this may not be a grave thing for anyone else," he said. "But for me it's like the most awful thing in my whole life. It's just a nightmare. I feel like death over it."

The MP was in hiding away from his Norfolk home last night, but he issued a statement saying: "Following my immediate resignation to save any embarrassment to the Government, my principal and main concern is for my three children and my wife, with whom I remain together happily married, and also my friends and supporters, particularly the Finchley and Friern Barnet Conservative Association, from whom I have had overwhelming support."

Ministers and MPs reacted to yesterday's disclosures with exasperation and disbelief, while for the Prime Minister, dogged by scandals since the new year, a three-day trip to Russia beginning today will come as a relief from domestic troubles.

Peter Temple-Morris, MP for Leominster, said that in resigning, Mr Booth had set an example to his superiors in the Government. "There are one or two examples of people who, if they had behaved in the same way, things would not be as they are today."

Mr Temple-Morris said it would be a rash man who suggested there were no other skeletons in the Tory cupboard, but he added: "If there are skeletons which still remain, let them remain firmly where they belong, in the cupboard with the door locked."

Dame Jill Knight, MP for Edgbaston, said: "Any catalogue of scandals is worrying. But all of this, though certainly deplorable in many ways, has nothing to do with the major business of the principles my colleagues and I believe in."

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Howard rethinking drug fines

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Howard is to reconsider plans to increase the maximum fine for possession of cannabis and amphetamines to £2,500 after severe criticism from police and magistrates' leaders.

The proposed increase in the fine is seen by the Home Secretary as a way of signalling that drug taking is taken seriously. Instead he was accused of not thinking through the consequences.

His proposal to stiffen the maximum fine comes as an investigation by *The Times* reveals that soft drugs are widely available and easily bought in England's shire counties.

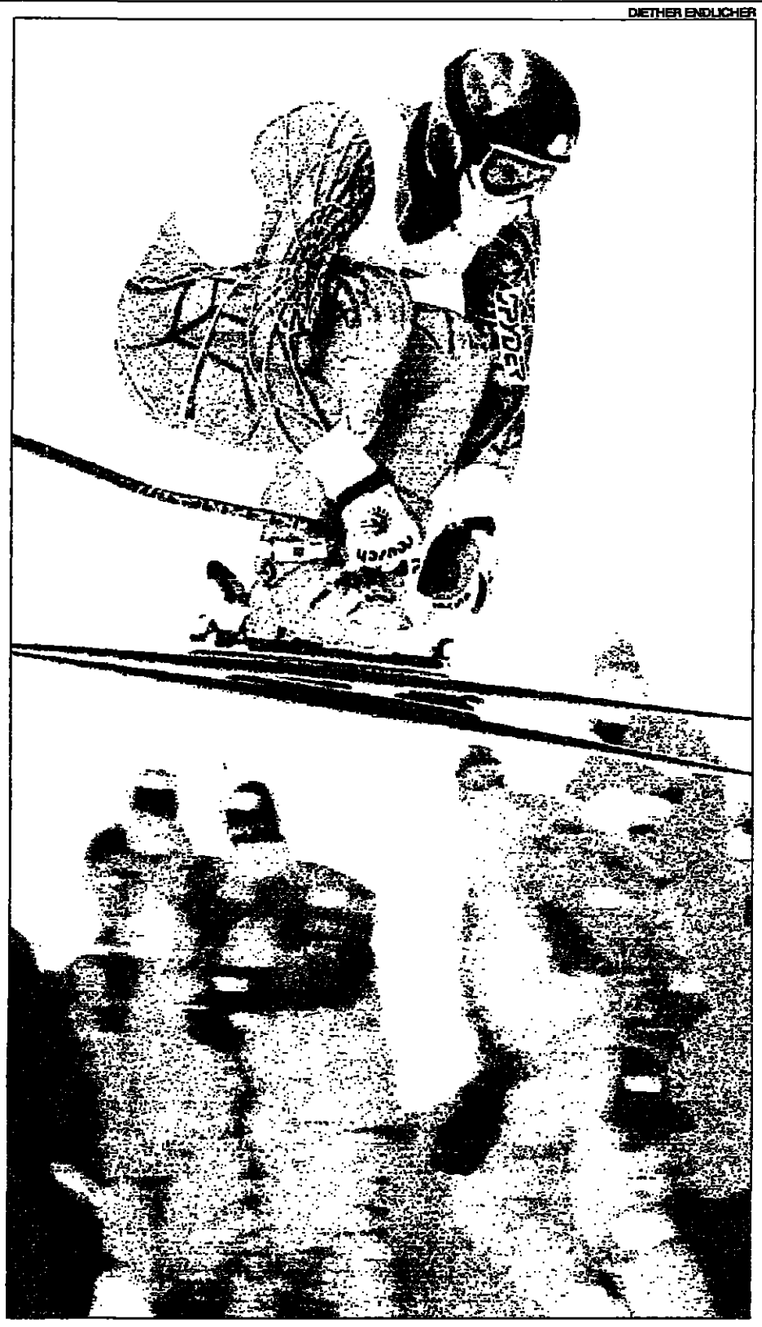
A Home Office spokesman said: "It has not been decided whether it will go ahead. He might decide in the light of what the police say not to bring forward the amendment".

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Tommy Moe, an American who has never won a World Cup skiing race, taking the blue riband event at the Winter Olympics when he pipped Kjetil Andre Aamodt by four hundredths of a second in the men's downhill in Kvitfjell, Norway, yesterday. When Aamodt took the lead with 1min 45.79sec. Norwegians in the 40,000 crowd began to celebrate but the cheers were cut short when Moe, 23, came in with a time of 1:45.75 ..... Page 23

General Rose says his finger is on the air strike button

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

BRITAIN's Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, commander of United Nations forces in Bosnia and architect of a ceasefire that could become the turning point in the siege of Sarajevo, said yesterday that he would be the man who would take the final decision on whether to call in air strikes against Bosnian Serb positions.

Such strikes would only take place in conjunction with his efforts on the ground. "There will be no air strikes in this country unless I give the order for them," he told *The Times*.

General Rose disclosed that before accepting his post he had had discussions in London, New York and Paris about how he proposed to handle the conflict. He said that last week's Nato ultimatum was made only after consultations with UN officials in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and that it has given him a "big stick" with which to "motivate" the two parties to co-operate.

There has been confusion over the chain of command for air strikes. But on Friday Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, delegated the decision to Yasushi Akashi, the UN special envoy in Yugoslavia, who has forged close links with General Rose.

General Rose accused the Muslims of minor ceasefire breaches designed to provoke the Serbs, remarking: "I think this point should be made quite clear." To ensure that he knows the precise location of any gun that fires, the general has requested a American-made ground radar that pinpoints the source of mortar and artillery fire.

Nato ground-surveillance planes have been overflying the city each night, tracking vehicle and weapon movements and locating any gun violating the ceasefire. "It can see everything, and it can hear everything," General Rose said. "And I've got the whole might of Nato air power behind me. At the tactical level, Nato and I are one. If anyone starts shooting, I can do something about it."

General Rose pledged that his troops would hold the handful of frontline positions they now occupy if they come under fire from the Bosnian Serbs in retaliation for Nato air strikes.

"Once our guys are on the ground they are not going to move," the general, 53, said at his forward headquarters in Sarajevo. "Anybody who shoots at them, they are going to fire back. I am certainly not going to withdraw my troops on the ground."



Rose: "I have the might of Nato behind me"

General Rose believes that the Nato ultimatum has convinced the Bosnian Serb leadership to end the artillery assaults on Sarajevo, and that air strikes will not therefore prove necessary. Yesterday

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Stores boost for Branson lottery bid

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

MARKS and Spencer has promised seriously to consider backing the bid for the national lottery licence led by Richard Branson and Lord Young of Graffham.

The move by M&S, Tesco and Texaco concentrates the argument over who should win the lottery franchise on to who can provide the biggest return for charity.

M&S has rejected any lottery involvement on ethical grounds, but it now says it would seriously consider backing a successful bid by the UK Lottery Foundation, which alone of the expected bidders promises to return all proceeds to charity.

Applications to run the lottery must be sumitted today.

Beneficent Branson, page 9
Making Britons rich, page 42
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Adams 'preparing to ditch' peace deal

BY NICHOLAS WATT AND PHILIP WEBSTER

GERRY Adams gave another significant rebuff to the Anglo-Irish peace initiative yesterday when he urged Britain to persuade Northern Ireland's one million Protestants to back a united Ireland.

The Sinn Fein president was making a demand that he knows John Major has rejected and could not possibly accept, reinforcing the impression that he may be preparing the ground for ditching the initiative.

Mr Adams said: "Unless the British Government makes that small step forward it cannot say it is interested in peace. The British Government has to join the persuaders and say to the Unionists their future lies with the rest of Ireland."

He reiterated his demand for the Government to clarify last December's Downing Street declaration and called on Mr Major to remove the Unionist veto over political developments in Northern Ireland.

Mr Adams, who is still basking in his New York public relations triumph, told ITV's *Walden* programme: "It is totally wrong that any section of our people should have a veto over progress. Now at the same time republicans recognise that this section of our people, the Unionists, need to be persuaded, need to be brought into the process, we need their consent.

"If John Major refuses to give clarifications then it's impossible for us to give a definitive response," he emphasised.

His remarks were seen by British ministers as another delaying tactic. They fear that

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McGlinchey funeral, page 2



Mystery of the V & A's dodgy brass dolphin



That dolphin: given away by a newspaper

BY ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

CURATORS at the Victoria and Albert museum have turned detective after discovering that part of the centrepiece in an important furniture exhibition is a fake. Experts are now reassessing many of the 40 exhibits of 18th century English furniture, attributed to master craftsman John Channon.

In addition it is thought that an identifiable group of works was in fact designed by the greatest of all cabinet-makers, Thomas Chippendale.

As staff moved the central exhibit in the show — one of two famous bookcases from Powderham Castle in Exeter — they were astonished to find a small piece of newspaper wedged between the plinth and the shelves. The paper bore the date July 29, 1863, 90 years later than the assumed date for the piece.

Further investigation showed that the plinth, bearing an intricate dolphin design, was a fake 19th century addition. Suddenly, the attribution of many other pieces in the exhibition appeared suspect, including one highly important piece also with brass dolphins.

The implications for the antiques world are huge. Channon was previously credited with the creation of nearly all high-quality brass inlaid furniture made between 1730 and 1760, but now a whole host of other furniture-makers appear to have been producing similar pieces.

The discovery is bound to make an impact on sales and prices; until July of last year, the world record auction price for a piece of English furniture was held by an ornate library table attributed to Channon. It sold for £1.1 million. Tessa Murdoch, curator of the exhibition which opens on Wednesday, described the Powderham bookcase as "the Rosetta Stone for English brass-inlaid furniture of the 18th century".

She said: "The discovery was incredibly exciting. We started to question whether everything that was attributed to John Channon really is by him."

The original catalogue prepared for the exhibition is now out of date and Dr Murdoch describes the show as "portraying research in progress".

Very little information about who made what is now certain and the musuem is looking forward to some *Antiques Road Show*-style discoveries as visitors are invited to compare the exhibits with pieces they may have at home.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Capsized canoeist feared drowned

A canoeist is presumed to have drowned after capsizing in the flooded Thames yesterday. The 32-year-old man was with three other men, thought to be members of the Royal Canoe Club, in Twickenham, southwest London. They were paddling from Sonning, near Reading, to Datchet, 12 miles away. Police said the missing man was not wearing a lifejacket. He was with a friend in a two-man canoe when they capsized under a bridge between Windsor and Eton.

In Sunderland, 15 people were rescued as waves crashed over a pier.Coastguards and ambulance staff were called to the pier at Roker after a report that one person had been injured and another washed into the sea by a freak wave. Three were lifted by helicopter and the rest clambered to safety through a tunnel in the pier. No one was found in the sea.

The freezing weather is expected to continue at least until tomorrow, the London Weather Centre said last night. "There will be snow flurries with the possibility of blizzards tomorrow when milder weather starts to move up from the south," a spokesman said. Forecast, page 22

Kidnapped MPs return

Two MPs who escaped Somali kidnappers during a fact-finding tour returned to Britain yesterday. Tony Worthington, Labour MP for Clydebank and Milngavie, and Mark Robinson, Conservative MP for Somerton and Frome, had been held for 24 hours in northwest Somalia. Mr Worthington, 52, the Opposition spokesman on overseas aid, will be summoned by Labour Whips today to explain why he defied a party ban on the practice of "pairing-off", whereby rival members are able to be absent from the House without affecting parliamentary votes.

NHS trusts 'in trouble'

Trust hospitals are struggling to cope with the soaring cost of emergency admissions and more than 50 NHS trusts and 20 health authorities are in financial trouble, a Labour Party survey claimed yesterday. David Blunkett, shadow Health Secretary, said GPs were having to admit patients as emergency cases to ensure they received treatment.

Low pay rates worsen

The abolition of Wages Councils in August 1993 has resulted in an "alarming" erosion of pay rates, according to a national survey published today. Nearly one in five vacancies in former Wages Council sectors is being offered at rates below the former council levels, said the study by the Manchester-based Low Pay Network.

Runaway girl due home

A schoolgirl who ran away with a school laboratory technician is due to fly home from Switzerland today. Nicola Adams, 13, from Shotton, Clwyd, disappeared three weeks ago with Martin Kitching, 27. They were traced to a hotel in Interlaken, Switzerland. Mr Kitching was arrested when he arrived back at Dover yesterday.

Jail birds get new home

Des Quigley, 53, who is serving life for murder, yesterday introduced some of the birds he has bred in Nottingham prison to their new aviary, built by inmates. Quigley, from Glasgow, has bred 10,000 budgerigars, canaries, parrots and cockatiels, 100 of which share his cell. He has taught several of the parrots to sing "Hickory Dickory Dock".

MARTIN McCULLOUGH



Martin McGuinness, right, carries Dominic McGlinchey's coffin with the dead man's brother Sean, centre

Family buries killer who knew his time had come

■ The story of murdered terrorist Dominic 'Mad Dog' McGlinchey reached its inevitable conclusion in the soil of Co Londondery

BY NICHOLAS WATT
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of mourners turned out yesterday for the funeral of Dominic McGlinchey, one of Ulster's most brutal republican paramilitaries, who was shot dead last Thursday.

Martin McGuinness, the vice-president of Sinn Fein, joined scores of relatives and sympathisers who took it in turns to carry the coffin, which was draped in the Irish tricolour. Mr McGuinness was a former associate of McGlinchey's in the 1970s before the man known as "Mad Dog" left the IRA to join the Irish National Liberation Army.

Scores of police in RUC armour-plated vans escorted the cortege on a grey and cold afternoon as it made its way from McGlinchey's family home in the village of Bellaghy in Co Londonderry to the local Roman Catholic church.

As the mourners reached St Mary's church, McGlinchey's son, Dominic, 16, who witnessed his father's murder, joined with his brother, Declan, to carry the coffin the final yards into the building for the service.

The two teenagers, who also witnessed the murder of their mother, Mary, in 1987, left a wreath in the shape of "DAD". A note read: "We will always love you and remember you. To the best father in the world."

At the packed funeral mass Father Michael Flanagan told the mourners that McGlinchey, who led the INLA, had suffered a hard and violent death. He said that there was a bit of good in the worst of people, and added that God had allowed McGlinchey to die with a prayer in his lips.

McGlinchey died in Drogheda, Co Louth, last Thursday night after three gunmen opened fire on him as he used a public call box next to the town's hospital. His killers were believed to have been former INLA associates who were settling a ten-year-old feud. The dispute was also linked with the death of Mary McGlinchey, who was gunned down at her home in Dundalk in front of her sons.

After the mass, McGlinchey's coffin was carried out of the church for burial and the Irish flag was wrapped round it again. Mourners packed into the graveyard where McGlinchey was buried in a plot next to his wife. Another tricolour flew beside the graves.

Bernadette McAliskey, the former nationalist MP, who gave the funeral oration, described McGlinchey as incorruptible. She described the man who had boasted that he had been responsible for 30 deaths as the "finest republican who never did an inglorious deed".

Mrs McAliskey then provoked the crowd into turning against the press by criticising the media coverage of McGlinchey's death. Referring to journalists Mrs McAliskey, who is a columnist herself, said: "May every last one of them rot in hell." Some of the crowd turned to the reporters covering the funeral and shouted abuse.

In an interview published yesterday, which was carried out two weeks before his death, McGlinchey said he knew he was being stalked by a family who were determined to kill him.

He told the Dublin *Sunday Press* that a family from Armagh, with whom he had feuded in the 1980s, had been responsible for a murder attempt on him after he was released from Portlaoise prison in the Irish republic last year.

McGlinchey said that he could feel them coming after him and added: "These men are crazy. They are driven. They will stop at nothing."

Oxford lures state pupils with crash course in Latin

BY JOHN O'LEARY AND BEN PRESTON

OXFORD University is to open up its renowned classics degrees to students without A-level Latin to counter the decline in the subject in state schools.

Applications from independent schools to take Greats, which covers Latin and Greek, have remained buoyant and entry standards are the highest in Britain. But dons are increasingly concerned at the dwindling number of state school candidates.

Only 1,000 of the 13,000 pupils taking GCSE Latin go on to study the subject in the sixth form. Academics believe that Oxford's insistence on A level is depriving the university of some potentially outstanding students.

Oxford undergraduates have been able to start ancient Greek from scratch since 1972. Almost a third of classics students do so. From 1995, up to 24 places a year will be added for those denied opportunities to study an ancient language.

The new courses, which are expected to be launched this week, will take four years rather than the usual three. The students will be expected to keep up with A-level entrants after a crash programme of language training in the first year.

Money raised in Oxford's successful fund raising campaign will be used to employ specialist teachers in both languages. Graduate students are being trained as instructors. Most of the candidates are likely to have taken a modern language at A level, and some will also have studied a non-linguistic classical civilisation or ancient history course.

A number of other universities have adapted to the switch from Latin to classical civilisation courses by offering non-linguistic classics degrees. Oxford's fast-track language training will be a more challenging option for those giving up Latin at GCSE.

Dr Peter Jones, a spokesman for the National Co-ordinating Committee for Classics, said: "The university is missing out on some state students of excellent calibre by restricting its intake. It cannot afford to do so in this day and age."

However, Dr Jones, senior classics lecturer at Newcastle University, predicted there would be few applications. "To go from GCSE to Greats standard in five terms is exceptionally demanding. You would have to be a linguistic masochist to do that."

Dr Mary Beard, director of studies in classics at Newnham College, Cambridge, said there were no immediate reforms planned at Cambridge. "We stand by the argument that you must support classics in state schools."

☐ Oxford is to accept Open University students on its continuing education programmes under an agreement signed last week.

Patten considers free nursery plan

BY OUR EDUCATION EDITOR

MINISTERS are considering free nursery places for all four year-olds as a transitional stage to the Prime Minister's target of universal state education from the age of three.

The Education Department dismissed as speculation a report yesterday that agreement had been reached. But John Patten, the Education Secretary, admitted last month that nothing was ruled out in the search for an improved nursery system.

Britain lags behind other European countries and America in availability of nursery places. Less than half of three and four-year-olds are in nursery classes, and the level of provision varies widely between education authorities.

Free places for the whole age group could add about £860 million to the cost of state education at a time when the Treasury is reviewing long-term spending throughout Whitehall. However, John Major has stated that he would prefer to put extra money for education into nurseries than into schools.

Pre-school provision is certain to be a key educational issue at the next general election. Labour is already making political capital out it and ministers will be under strong pressure to respond.

Mr Patten has said repeatedly that substantial improvements can only be made when public spending constraints have eased. But the large number of "rising fives" already attending primary schools would make a commitment on four-year-olds alone an economical first step.

Civil servants have been looking at various options for expanding the number of free places. A voucher system extending access to private nursery places is the most likely long-term outcome.

Studies in the United States have suggested that pre-school education not only raises achievements at school but helps towards cutting juvenile crime. Last year the independent National Commission on Education said the extension of free nursery places at three and four was the single most important advance that could be made in education policy.



Patten: has spoken of spending constraints

Adams plays for time on peace initiative

Continued from page 1

Mr Adams is engaged in a step-by-step exercise to discredit the declaration without disowning it outright at this stage.

Government officials said they did not see Mr Adams's words as the final Sinn Fein response. "When it comes we do not expect to hear it on the *Walden* programme," an official said.

Mr Adams also said that the Government should spell out the mechanisms and policy objectives in its peace process.

The Sinn Fein president is trying to extract as many guarantees and concessions as he can from both governments. But he knows that London has consistently refused to clarify the declaration, and Albert Reynolds, the Taoiseach, is rapidly losing patience after clarifying the document in letters to Mr Adams and in numerous speeches.

Dublin had hoped for a definitive Sinn Fein response during its annual party conference on February 26. But Sinn Fein effectively ruled this out at the weekend by announcing that it would hold a public "peace commission" in Belfast after the conference. Both governments now accept that Sinn Fein will drag out the process for months without giving an answer.

Mr Adams, whose words were reproduced by an actor's voice, described the declaration as "a masterpiece of ambiguity, about which both governments have different interpretations".

All the business world loves a lover

Florists, restaurants and the card industry are reporting record sales this St Valentine's day, **Robin Young** *reports*

St Valentine is setting records this year. The cheaper red roses are selling at £3 a stem, heart-throb-size oysters are up in price as much 50p each, and the Royal Mail is claiming a 10 per cent increase in cards sent first-class.

Roses have been rushed from Israel, The Netherlands, Colombia, Kenya and the Canary Islands to satisfy florists' demand, with some shops reporting sales up 50 per cent on last year. At Harrods, single specimens have been seen at £50 each.

The number of Valentines winging their way by first-class post this year has reached almost nine million, reaping £2.25 million in revenue. The card industry is convinced that it has easily bettered last year's sales when Valentines grossed £26.5 million with more than 20 million cards sold.

If the whole world loves a lover, none does so more ardently than the hotel and restaurant trade, which looks to St Valentine to boost Monday's takings.

At London hotels the romantically inclined are offered the traditional pink champagne, oysters, asparagus, caviar and *foie gras* with hotel bedrooms if required, and this year they can have them all cut-price. The Lanesborough Hotel at Hyde Park Corner is offering its five-course meal for two, overnight accommodation in a junior suite and English breakfast and overnight parking for £293.75. It would normally cost £555.25.

There were, however, no takers for one of the most ambitious Valentine's programmes. The Rookery Hall country house hotel near Nantwich, Cheshire, proposed a romantic weekend including the services of a chauffeur, butler, maid and harpist, a helicopter flight over the Lake District to Gretna Green and a succession of sumptuous foods and vintage wines, at a cost of £6,750 per couple.

"We had one American who was seriously interested," Jenifer Williams, the hotel's sales manager, said, "but eventually he had to get back to the States on business". Love, after all, does not quite conquer all.

For those with palates jaded by traditional aphrodisiacal delights, ethnic restaurants offer some hot novelties. The Haweli chain of Indian restaurants in Surrey and south London has a Valentine menu for £16.95 a head including a lusty combination of tender tikkas, korma kisses, Valentine vindaloos and passion pulaus.

The Times today contains two pages of richly soppy word-play, messages from the heart gushing with sentimentality and thinly disguised sexual innuendo. On pages 20 and 21 you will discover what it is that Greep thinks will ingratiate him (or is it her?) to Bobbies Bombom. There too you will find what Snoopy feels for Bluebell and what Ratso has to thank Bongle for.

Our advertisers this year also include Witchypoo the Drunk, Big Brewfish, H Pot and King Frog, doubtless ardent lovers all.

Amid the exotica it is strangely comforting to come across so straightforward an entry as the one that reads: "Beryl. Hope you see this. It's the only one I have ever sent. Ron." Beryl, are you reading this?

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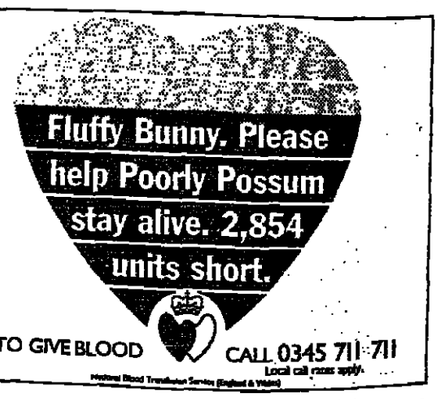
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'They're all at it now, and I don't see any reason why Booth should resign'

Finchley forgives 'foolish' MP whose only sin was to flirt

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE Conservatives of Finchley closed ranks in defence of their MP, Hartley Booth, yesterday after his resignation as parliamentary private secretary to Douglas Hogg, the foreign minister. But they also made clear that the Prime Minister's back-to-basics campaign was an embarrassment that should be conveniently forgotten.

At Margaret Thatcher House, the offices of the Finchley and Friern Barnet Conservative Association, the view was that public moralising was placing added pressure on members of Parliament. Across the road at the Finchley Methodist church, where Mr Booth is a lay preacher, the mood was one of sadness and Christian forgiveness.

Ron Thurlow, the local party chairman, said Mr Booth had been a fool but added that he was surprised the MP had chosen to resign as a PPS after newspaper reports of his friendship with Emily Barr, his former researcher. "I can only think it was because of the current climate," he said.

"I don't know why he had to resign over this. Everybody flirts, don't they? If he was doing a good job, then whoever it was, and I suppose that is Douglas Hogg, should have said, 'I quite understand this. Publish and be damned'."

His surprise was shared by Mark Booth, the minister at the church, who is not related to Mr Booth. He described his namesake as a fine preacher in the Methodist tradition, who was always warmly received at the church and whom he regarded as a friend.

"I would like to think that his local party will be very understanding and supportive," he said.

Hartley Booth was chosen to succeed Baroness Thatcher, and held Finchley for the Conservatives in the 1992 general election with a reduced majority of 6,388. For a constituency reported to have more high-priced properties (valued at more than £160,000) than any other in London, it is more marginal than might be expected, and proposed boundary changes, whereby it would acquire two wards from Hendon and lose one to Barnet, are likely to make it even more so.

But Mr Thurlow said there was no question of Mr Booth being asked to resign as an MP. "I was at a social function last night at which I said I would tell Hartley that he had 100 per cent backing from the constituency, and it was greeted with clapping and cheers.

"I believe Hartley resigned his office not because he was guilty but because of the high moral stance he has always taken."

A sign in the window of the building advertised a surgery for those seeking help and advice from their MP. A party worker confessed that life was less exciting than when the MP was also the Prime Minister, but said that Mr Booth was a good man and very popular.

Over the road, homeless men and women were queuing in flurries of snow for a hot meal in the church hall. Worshippers leaving the morning service were mostly reluctant to talk about Mr Booth but said prayers had been offered for him and his family.

Norman Burgess, 71, a retired junior school headmaster and former chairman of the Finchley Society, said he had never voted Conservative, "but I jolly well hope he doesn't resign as MP".

"I have been in hospital twice recently and he wrote to me personally each time. How many MPs would do that? As a Christian I support him entirely in his hour of need. What has happened has not diminished him in any way. We are all sinners."

Outside an off-licence down the road David Miller, a self-employed hairdresser and property dealer, said he had voted Conservative at the last election but would not do so again. "Things have come to a pretty poor pass," he said. "But they're all at it now, and I don't see any reason why Booth should resign."



Ron Thurlow: "I don't know why he resigned"

Major pressure, page 1
Matthew Parris, page 16

MIKE PATTISON


Emily Barr: former model took a pay rise to work for Hartley Booth

Woman saves her drowning husband

BY JENNY KNIGHT

THE wife of a millionaire property developer dived into an icy river to rescue her unconscious 14-stone husband and then kept his head above water for 10 minutes until the fire brigade arrived.

Douglas Gascoine, 60, of Southwell, Nottinghamshire, was "poorly" in the intensive care unit of Lincoln County Hospital last night. His wife Rachel, 50, was discharged from hospital after treatment for hypothermia.

Mr Gascoine fell into the Trent while the couple were walking along the riverbank on their way to a party in Newark-on-Trent. Mrs Gascoine heard a splash as he hit the water and immediately took off her shoes and coat while shouting for help, before plunging into the fast-flowing waters.

She said yesterday: "The water was so cold it took my breath away. I kept swimming around groping for Douglas, who wasn't making a sound. When I found him he was unconscious.

"I didn't think I stood much chance of lifting him out so I trod water, keeping his head above the surface and trying to stop water entering the hole in his throat from a recent operation.

"The fire brigade were marvellous. They concentrated on getting Douglas out of the water first because he was obviously in a bad way."

Passers-by who heard Mrs Gascoine's screams for help alerted the emergency services. The couple were both taken to Newark General Hospital. Mr Gascoine was transferred later to Lincoln County Hospital when his condition worsened. Mrs Gascoine and her three children Emma, 24, Christopher, 22 and Sarah, 20, spent yesterday at his bedside.

A family friend said: "Everyone is praising Rachel for her bravery. The river was deep and bitterly cold, but she didn't hesitate. She has always been a fearless horse-rider and her courage came through on this occasion."

Financial worry drove man to kill his family

BY A STAFF REPORTER

FINANCIAL worries drove a businessman to shoot his wife and son and then turn the gun on himself, relatives said yesterday. Alan Taylor, 63, his wife Joan, 58, and their son Grant, 31, were directors of a family business said to be on the brink of collapse.

Mr Taylor told a friend about the perilous state of the company shortly before the three were found dead at their home in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, his brother Dennis said.

"He took the two people he loved most in the world with him because they could not bear to be parted. You can imagine the state of my brother's mind," he said.

Detectives investigating the case said they were considering alternative theories of a suicide pact or murder by one family member followed by suicide.

Mr Taylor left a series of notes addressed to family members which police removed from the scene. Legal documents and a will were found in a shed.

An elderly relative, alerted after Mr Taylor pushed a note through her letterbox during the night, found the couple in bed together and Grant in another room. Two Calor gas canisters had been left turned on.

The three victims were directors of the Abcon (NE) Ltd, a concrete and building materials firm based at Blaydon. The company was under investigation for matters including a failure to file up-to-date accounts. The last figures, lodged in June 1991, showed a pre-tax loss of £58,000, compared with a profit of £165,000 in 1989. Its overdraft with the Yorkshire Bank stood at £99,751 and interest payments on debts were more than £50,000 a year.

Dennis Taylor said: "If they had told us the whole family would have rallied together and we would have got them over it. We were the closest-knit family you could ask for but Alan did not want to be seen as a failure."

Unlikely grist to the tabloid mill

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

HARTLEY Booth, more than anyone else from his Class of '92, epitomised the old-fashioned, solid and dependable Tory backbencher.

At 47, he was older than most of the 63 Tory MPs who took their seats for the first time at the last general election. He had gravitas; he was a family man with three children and a Methodist lay preacher. To some he appeared pompous, to others humble. No one would ever imagine him splashed across the tabloids for having got into a scrape with a girl.

Until yesterday, Mr Booth's greatest distinguishing factor was that he had stepped into Margaret Thatcher's shoes when he was chosen as Conservative candidate for Finchley, beating about 230 other hopefuls. Mrs Thatcher's agent was the favourite, but somehow Mr Booth managed to beat them all at the eleventh hour.

Mr Booth (he dropped his first name Edward) had previously worked with the former Prime Minister as her adviser on law and order in the Downing Street policy unit. He would see Mrs Thatcher almost every day and was devoted to her. "People who are used to her love her," Mr Booth said.

He had a wobbly start in the House after signing a motion challenging the Maastricht treaty on European union. But he soon buckled under pressure from the Whips, removing the offending signature.

He was rewarded by being appointed parliamentary private secretary to the Foreign Office minister Douglas Hogg. With a first step on the rung, he was looking forward to promotion.

As became apparent this weekend, Mr Booth is a poet as well as having been a barrister. It started as a hobby while he was waiting in for cases in Chambers, but later he published some nonsense verses under a pseudonym.

He attended Queen's School, Taunton, and read law at Bristol before meeting his wife Adrianne at Cambridge.

Mr Booth can now get back to his biography of William the Conqueror, which he has been working on for 15 years, and writing his column in the local paper.


Booth: epitome of old-fashioned Tory

Student has firm opinions on sex

BY LIN JENKINS

EMILY Barr took delight in spanning the political divide in Westminster by working for Labour after her romance with Hartley Booth ended, and with it her job in his office.

By her own admission she had never shared the politics of the man who was once one of Margaret Thatcher's law and order advisers at the No 10 policy unit. Once installed in the office of Peter Mandelson, Labour MP for Hartlepool, she claimed to have been attending meetings of the Socialist Workers Party in Mr Booth's Finchley constituency while working for him.

She told a journalist that when John Major asked Mr Booth to contribute to his speech on law and order at last year's Tory conference she "cynically" supplied a few suggestions.

Miss Barr, 22, first met Mr Booth when she had tea with him after going to lobby him on the Immigration Bill. She explained that she was a student and he asked how she managed on her grant. She told him she posed as a life model for art students for £5 an hour. He offered her a 50p an hour pay rise to become a research assistant.

Acquaintances believe it is unlikely she needed the money. As a postgraduate student studying the history of art at the Courtauld Institute in London, she lives in a mansion block in Morpeth Terrace, Victoria, where rents are high.

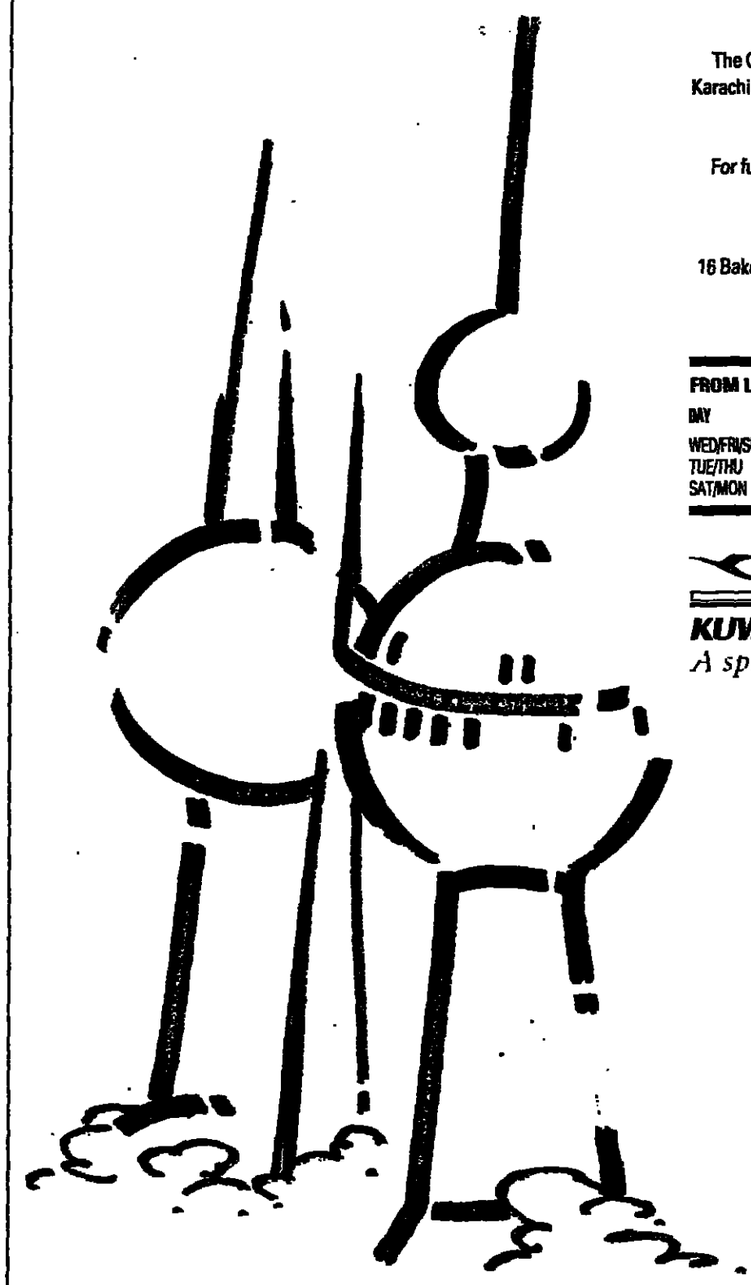
She won last year's prestigious *The Guardian*/National Union of Students Journalist of the Year award for her "relaxed, mature and intelligent" articles in *London Student*.

Miss Barr has also found her way into national newspapers on the subject of date rape and the rules of university liaisons. She told the *Daily Mail*: "Going to bed with a man no longer automatically means having full sex, though for me if it got to an orgasmic situation I would personally feel a little guilty about saying 'no'. But quite often you know it isn't going to go beyond the cosy thing, the kissing and hugging, sleeping with someone — quite literally because that is all you want."

In an open letter in *The Guardian* after the trial of Austen Donnellan, the student who was cleared of rape, Miss Barr blamed "men in their forties" who ran newspapers and television for the amazement expressed at a woman objecting to a man's advances after getting drunk, kissing him and being escorted home.

When working for Mr Mandelson she described herself as an "executive assistant". He said: "She worked in my office temporarily for a couple of days a week typing."

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Rivals up stakes in bid to stage Beatles

BY ALISON ROBERTS, ARTS REPORTER

THE battle is on to stage the first live concert by The Beatles in 24 years. As the group's three remaining members head back to the studios to record new music, two big-name promoters are offering platforms at summer festivals this year.

One bid comes from Sidney Bernstein, the New York entrepreneur who first took The Beatles to the United States. He wants the group to make its comeback at the 25th anniversary of Woodstock.

The other bid has been made by Raymond Foulk, director of the Isle of Wight Freshwater Festival.

Mr Bernstein is reportedly prepared to pay the group £17 million, while Mr Foulk's offer is a mere £2.5 million. Yesterday, however, the British bid upped the stakes and promised to match any offer made by the Americans. Mr Foulk said: "My information is that the remaining members of The Beatles do not want to play in America but Britain."

The Isle of Wight offer comes with a good pedigree. The festival organisers persuaded Bob Dylan to give his only commercial performance in an eight-year period and staged Jimi Hendrix's last big gig in 1970.

No love is lost between the two promoters. In a letter to The Beatles containing his offer, Mr Foulk said his event was more appropriate for a reunion than the "ideas being bandied about in the media from the likes of the proposed Woodstock revival event".

Meanwhile, mystery tracks from Beatles' mastertapes held in vaults are soon to be released. George Martin, the group's former producer, is selecting recordings for between four and six new compact disc releases.

Although sources at Abbey Road Studios, where Beatles' archives are held, said that Mr Martin had not been seen for several months, he made regular visits to the London studios last year.

Details are guarded with ferocity, but tracks under consideration reportedly include *Etcetera*, a Lennon-McCartney number recorded for the *White Album*; the only McCartney-Harrison number recorded, a 1958 ballad *In Spite of All The Danger*; and George Gershwin's *Summertime*. The latter might not be of the highest quality. It was sung impromptu by Paul McCartney, George Harrison and John Lennon in a Hamburg recording booth.

Now, Mr Major, what about Tuzla?



Photo: Bill Stoneham

Bosnian Muslims staying in a centre for displaced people in Tuzla, December 1993

At last, action has been taken to help the people of Sarajevo. But while the world, rightly, is showing compassion for the besieged capital, the war in Bosnia continues to kill, maim and starve people in other towns and cities.

In Tuzla, over a quarter of a million people – many displaced, many elderly and poor – depend on a thin and vulnerable humanitarian lifeline.

The time has come to open Tuzla airport for humanitarian relief flights, so the food and clothing so desperately needed by so many people can be sent straight there, straight away.

Britain's is one of a handful of governments which can help achieve this. Through the UN, it can and must take swift and firm action.

The situation is critical. Last month only 20 per cent of food requirements got through to the city, and this slow strangulation looks set to continue. The increasing threat of malnutrition and starvation is met only with increasing shelling.

Tuzla, like Sarajevo, is a designated UN "Safe Area".

Its people are supposed to be protected.

Oxfam is working in Tuzla. We've delivered over 190,000 items of warm clothing donated by the people of Britain, and lives have been saved. But much more still needs to be done.

Help re-open Tuzla airport, Mr Major.
And keep it open.

If you're as concerned as we are about the people of Tuzla, and want to help, phone (0865) 312603.

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Arsonists kill six horses in 'evil' attack on stables

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

SIX horses were burnt to death when arsonists set fire to their stables after dousing the animals and their bedding with petrol early on Saturday. The horses were unable to escape the blaze because petrol had also been poured across the entrance to the stable block.

Staff at Black Row Farm near Throckley, Tyne and Wear, were woken by the screams of the dying animals. They led 18 horses to safety from two other stable blocks, which had also been doused with petrol.

Yesterday owners and staff wept as fire fighters doused the charred remains of the stables with water.

Emma Wright, 17, laid a wreath of daisies and primroses where her seven-year-old black gelding Hardy perished.

She said: "I just cannot understand the mentality of anyone who would do something as sickeningly cruel as this to a defenceless animal. I loved that horse and he loved me.

"Anyone who works with horses knows how dangerous fire can be — horses are terrified of it and with so much straw and bedding about it wouldn't take much to get it alight. Covering the place with petrol was evil."

Brenda Powell, a nurse whose mare, Janie, and seven-month-old foal, Kholie, died, said: "I spent 28 hours at Janie's side when she gave birth to the foal. I saw the place go up in flames and it's as if someone has taken away half of my life. I have been coming down here for six years, usually twice a day. Whoever did this has killed a piece of me."

Michael Cutts, 39, the stable owner, said: "Whoever did this set out deliberately to kill the horses. Why should they do that?"

Dave Curran, a fire officer, said his men had had to comfort distressed owners, some of whom had had to beat out flames on the backs of panicked horses with their bare hands.

"There are a lot of broken-hearted girls who loved their horses and many of them were hysterical," he said.

Northumbria police said: "This appears to have been a terrible, motiveless attack." Investigators believe the arsonists poured petrol over the animals as well as the straw they stood on.

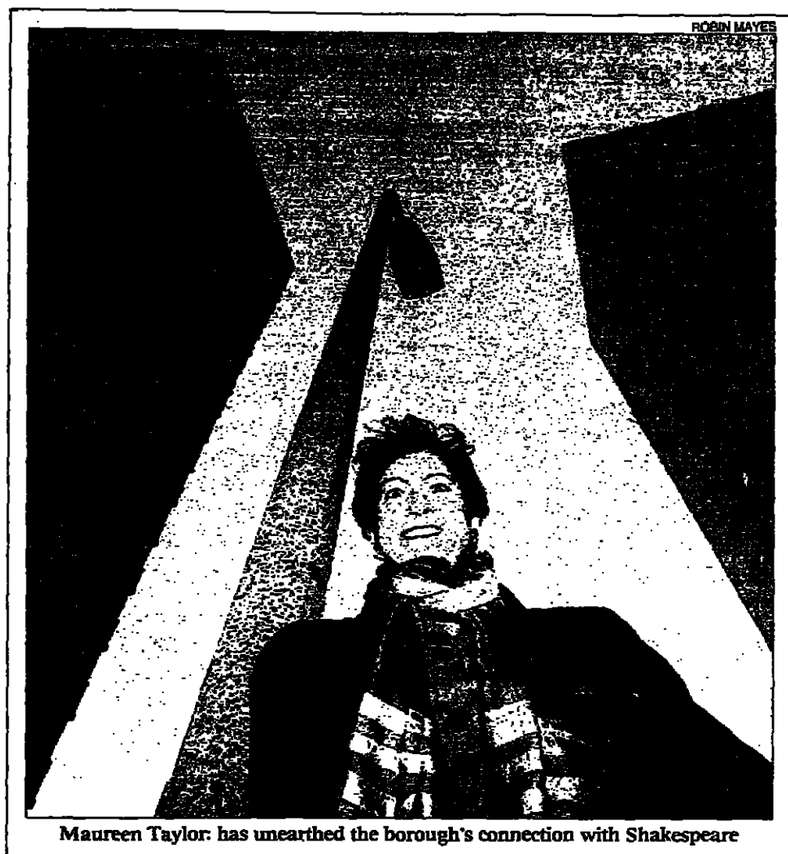
Mr Cutts, who started the stables a year ago and recently spent £15,000 expanding the premises, said: "Brothers Jimmy and Stephen Brown who live nearby spotted one horse on fire and managed to lead him out of the blazing barn and put out the flames using a blanket."

Stephen Brown suffered burns to his hands and was treated in hospital.

Firemen managed to prevent the flames spreading to two other blocks, despite the presence of more petrol on the ground.

Mr Cutts said: "I think the arsonists were disturbed otherwise even more horses could have perished."

Damage to the property is estimated at £15,000. Vets spent the weekend checking the horses and treating them as locals offered to rehouse homeless animals.


ROBIN MAYES

Maureen Taylor: has unearthed the borough's connection with Shakespeare

Hackney woos the romantic

BY ANDREW PIERCE

HACKNEY, scene of the drama over a headmistress who banned a school trip to see *Romeo and Juliet*, is relaunching its image as a tourist attraction.

The inner London borough has employed a tourism director to sell the virtues of the area, which has one of the highest densities of tower-blocks in Europe.

Maureen Taylor is confident that tourists will come in sufficient numbers to bring rich dividends for residents who pay one of the highest rates of council tax in the country. She said: "Hackney has many undiscovered delights. It offers the taste of the real city."

The local people can certainly testify to that. The crime rate is so high, car and household insurance premiums are among the most expensive in Britain.

But Ms Taylor has even managed to exploit the embarrassment over Jane Brown, the headmistress who barred children at Kingsmead school from accepting free tickets for the ballet *Romeo and Juliet*. She has unearthed Hackney's trump card: according to the tourist guides being published, William Shakespeare was first employed as a playwright in Hackney.

Top of the list of Hackney's attractions is the 16th-century Sutton House, the only National Trust property in the inner city. The 18th-century Geffrye Museum, which boasts domestic interiors from the 18th century to the 1960s, is also being marketed. Another highlight is the factory shop selling Burberry seconds, which is already attracting coachloads of Japanese and Italian tourists.

The Hackney Empire, home to alternative comedy, the house where the late Marc Bolan lived until he was 16, and the wide variety of cosmopolitan restaurants are also included in the guides.

Finally, the borough is being advertised as a place for romance. Ms Taylor said: "There are lovely walks and parks which make Hackney a romantic place to go to."

Thieves take rare books worth £½m

BY JIM MCCUE

RARE books worth hundreds of thousands of pounds have been stolen from the London Library. Between 30 and 40 illustrated books up to 400 years old have disappeared from restricted areas, probably over several months.

Alan Bell, librarian of the famous lending-library in St James's Square, said that their value was "not less than £100,000". It is estimated, however, that they might cost more than £500,000 to replace. The news comes in the week that the library received planning permission for strongrooms for its rarest books.

The missing volumes, well-known to specialists, cover subjects from architecture to costumes and botany. All contain valuable plates. The variety suggests they were stolen for sale.

Police are investigating the theft, and details of the items have been circulated but it is unlikely that such conspicuous rarities could be sold in Britain. Several are about Italy or were published there, and print prices in Italy are especially high. The library has increased security.

Councils join forces to evict borderline case

BY A STAFF REPORTER

TWO county councils plan joint legal action to evict an elderly man from a shanty town he has built, straddling their boundary.

Jimmy Rye, 63, lives alone in a collection of vans and cars which straddles the Avon and Somerset county line near Churchill. Locals on both sides have complained for years about his 11 dogs, which they claim "terrorise" walkers along a public footpath.

But every time officials from either Avon or Somerset confront him, Mr Rye simply sidles a few feet to the left or the right — into a different county and out of trouble.

A Somerset County Council official said: "Jimmy has been running rings round the two councils for years. He always seems to know when someone is going up there to see him."

Mr Rye, who claims £63-a-week invalidity benefit, said yesterday: "They have tried to move me on stacks of times but so far I have managed to stay one jump ahead.

"I'm not doing any harm. I'll stay as long as I can until they catch me bang to rights. If it comes to it I'll go peacefully."

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£50,000+	3.50%	3.55%
£20,000-£49,999	3.00%	3.03%
£5,000-£19,999	2.50%	2.52%
Reserve Account for Personal Customers		
£50,000+	3.50%	3.55%
£20,000-£49,999	3.00%	3.03%
£5,000-£19,999	2.50%	2.52%
Reserve Account for Businesses/Charities/Societies		
£100,000-£1 million	2.75%	2.78%
£25,000-£99,999	2.50%	2.52%
£10,000-£24,999	1.75%	1.76%
High Interest Clients Accounts		
£100,000+	2.75%	2.78%
£25,000-£99,999	2.50%	2.52%
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Families deserve more than inadequate compensation and sympathy, QC says

Lawyers rail at feared cuts in cash for crime victims

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is to face a double onslaught in Parliament and possible legal action over its controversial proposals to introduce a tariff system for compensating victims of crime.

Lord Ackner, the retired law lord, is to lead a debate in the Lords on March 2 questioning the constitutional basis of the proposals and suggesting they flout the intentions of Parliament. If the Government proceeds with its proposals, there is a serious possibility that the basis for the new scheme will be challenged through the judicial review proceedings.

Lord Ackner said: "These proposals are being introduced on April 1 without having been brought before Parliament for its consideration."

The present scheme operated by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, in which awards are made by QCs on the basis of common law damages, was intended to be put on a statutory basis.

"That was clearly the intention as expressed in the Criminal Justice Act of 1988. But instead of doing that, the Home Secretary now seems to be saying 'two fingers' to the scheme — nothing doing," Lord Ackner said.

Labour and the Liberal Democrats have tabled an amendment to the Criminal Justice bill, now in its Commons committee stage, stating there should be no change to the present scheme without reference to Parliament.

There is widespread opposition to the proposals across the legal profession which maintains they will mean huge cuts in awards to crime victims. The Association of Personal Injuries Lawyers is at the head of a campaign against the proposals backed by the Law Society and others.

This week a letter will be sent to the Home Secretary signed by five leading personal injury QCs and 25 other barristers from chambers at 15 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn. They say the changes having "nothing to do with fairness or justice to the blameless victims of crime" but are Treasury-driven.

The letter, headed by John Melville Williams QC, chairman of the Association of Personal Injuries Lawyers, says: "The proposals are an insult to the victims of crime. We think that the quadriplegic, who has lost a lifetime's earnings and has dependants, would not agree that all he or she needs from society is a 'tangible recognition'.

"Careers and working lives may be destroyed and families left penniless, but all the Government thinks society should be prepared to offer is an inadequate sum in compensation and its 'sympathy'."

One member of the compensation board, Martin Thomas QC, has resigned in protest, describing the new tariff — with awards payable regardless of individual needs or circumstances — as a "retreat from justice".

Instead of QCs, the new tariff will be operated by officials. Lord Ackner pointed out that the tariff would pay nothing for loss of earnings or medical care. "So an airline pilot who loses an eye will get just the same as an old age pensioner with the same injury and a life expectancy of six months. A girl of 14 who is gang-raped will get just the same as a prostitute who withdraws her consent because she and the client could not agree on the fee."

Lord Ackner, who is expected to be joined in his criticisms by Lord Carlisle QC, chairman of the compensation board, and Lord Alexander of Weedon QC, condemned the proposals as "completely unjust and ridiculous".

DOUG MARKE



Ross Jones and his father Peter, who fears for the future of his son should relatives become unable to give him the 24-hour care he needs

Boy's injury award may be last big payout

BY OUR LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

■ Opponents of the Government's new compensation scheme believe it will make life even worse for some victims of crime

THE biggest award ever made for a victim of crime could be granted next month when a record claim of £1.3 million comes before the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

Ross Jones, 14, was left severely brain-damaged and in need of 24-hour care after being attacked as a toddler by his mother's boy friend. He cannot stand or walk unaided, can only speak odd words, has to be spoon fed and is doubly incontinent.

His claim could break new ground as the largest amount of compensation paid by the board. But it could also be one of the last of its kind. On April 1, under government proposals for scrapping the present scheme for criminal injuries compensation, the maximum award for an injury of the utmost severity will be reduced to £250,000.

Ross's solicitor, Neville Radcliffe, a partner with the Nottingham firm Browne Jacobson, said: "It makes me very angry when I hear Michael Howard saying that victims of crime will not suffer. It is completely untrue."

The claim, he said, was designed to ensure "Ross has as reasonable a quality of life as he possibly can". The bulk of the sum was for future medical care, but under the new tariff, no allowance would be made for the cost of caring or for loss of earnings.

Ross was attacked when he was three. He was in intensive care for four days and almost died. The attacker was subsequently convicted of grievous bodily harm with intent.

Ross's father, Peter, who is divorced from the mother, said: "When something like that happens, everything else pales into insignificance. It makes you realise how important your family are."

Ross, a happy child despite his severe disabilities, has been cared for with devotion by his father, older brothers and in particular his grandmother, Mabel Jones, 72. She moved in with the family 11 years ago but now suffers from severe arthritis. "It's a team effort," she said. "We all help. But I find it very difficult to lift Ross now."

Each morning he is bathed, nappy changed, dressed, fed and got ready for collection in his wheelchair to his special school. The family is finding it harder to cope and there is concern for the future.

Mr Jones, 48, an executive with IBM, said: "There's this awful worry that one of these days I'm not going to be here, and who looks after Ross?"

Two of Ross's brothers are now at university. The third is at home doing A levels. "They all adore him but I can't expect them not to pursue their full potential just because their brother has suffered this fate," Mr Jones said.

The new compensation scheme taking effect in April will worsen the disadvantages already suffered by victims of crime compared with other accident victims. First, there is no legal aid. Second, awards to crime victims are one-off sums. Lawyers for Ross will seek to break new ground in being paid in instalments, as happens in accident awards.

New-look Radio 1 'alienating pop music listeners'

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S leading rock music awards, the Brits, will be presented tonight amid growing disquiet among fans about the fate of Radio 1.

Since Matthew Bannister took over as controller of the pop station last year, radically changing its schedule, the weekly audience has shrunk by one million listeners and there has been heavy criticism.

According to the pop music writer and broadcaster Jonathan King, Mr Bannister has alienated many listeners by making too many changes too quickly. Although he praises Mr Bannister's aim of introducing more new bands and live music, Mr King says: "The way to do it is to slip the odd new record in among the more acceptable chart hits, not to bombard people with new sounds." He also thinks there is too much talk and not enough music.

Other critics have been less tempered. Simon Bates, who left the station in October, says the new-look Radio 1 is "inexperienced and clumsy".

The problems come at a crucial time for the BBC, as the Government plans its future beyond the expiry of its charter in 1996. The corporation is caught between two imperatives: proving that it produces distinctive material that would not be made in the commercial sector, and attracting big enough audiences to justify continued public funding.

Mr Bannister said last night: "Before I arrived, Radio 1 was repeatedly criticised for having older DJs who were out of touch with current trends in music. The audience dropped by one million in the first half of 1993 before I arrived as a result of increasing competition."

There are signs that the changes so painful to pop music's old guard, are beginning to be appreciated. Steve Sutherland, editor of the New Musical Express, said: "The BBC has a duty to encourage new music and to exercise some sort of musical critique. That is exactly what the new disc jockeys are doing in the session shows."

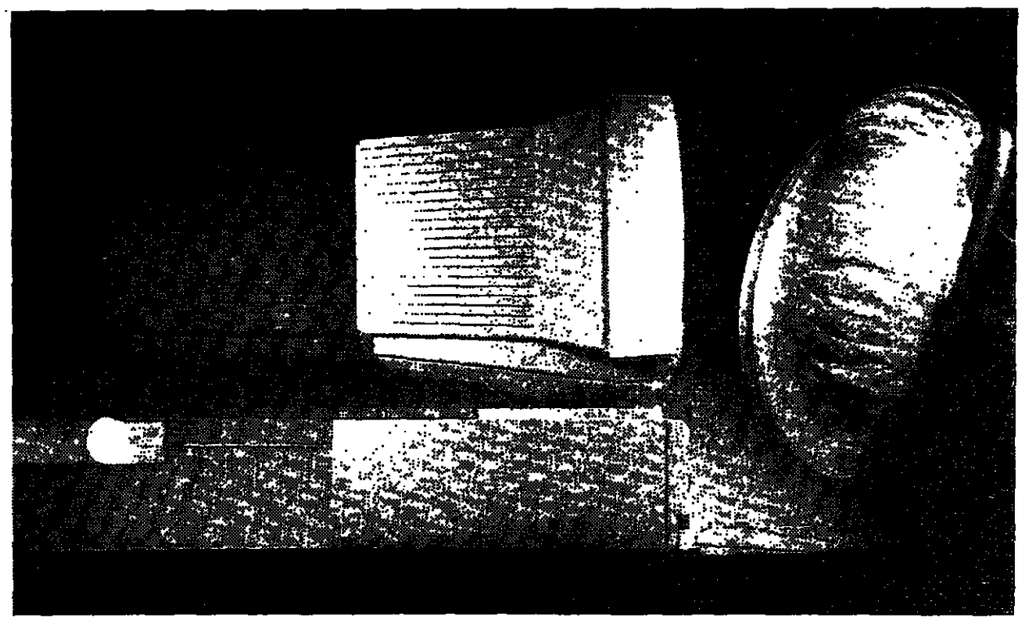


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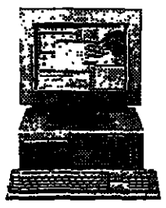
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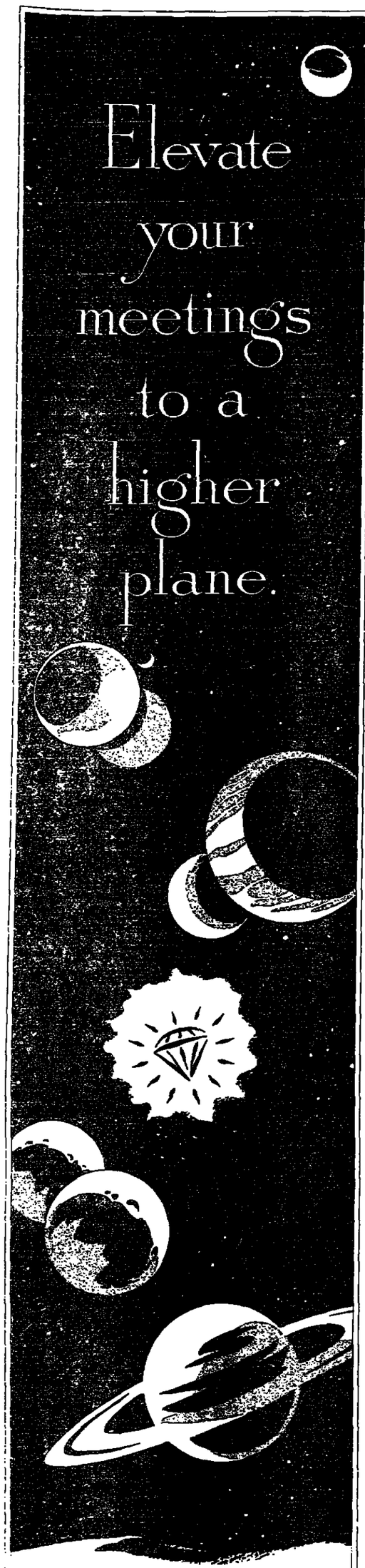
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Times investigation reveals insidious spread of inner city's deadly curse

Drug culture grips heart of England

By Staff Reporters

THE illicit drugs culture, once the preserve of Britain's inner cities, has extended its influence. The country cousins of streetwise metropolitan youths are experimenting with cannabis, Ecstasy, LSD and amphetamines.

In the market towns and cathedral cities of England's shires, an underground distribution network has evolved which makes most substances available.

Michael Levi, professor of criminology at the University of Wales in Cardiff, said that recognition of drug offending was "quite low" in the countryside, because statistics depended on the amount of police activity. "It is invisible, because drugs squads aren't so likely to operate in rural areas," he said.

One of the few studies took place in East Sussex, where 2,047 schoolchildren were questioned last year at a cost of £16,000. The Home Office paid most of the bill. Researchers discovered that a fifth of all pupils aged 14 and 15 had tried an illicit drug. The proportion was broadly the same in rural and urban areas. Boys were more involved than girls.

"It is prevalent, it is accessible. Anybody can get it if they want to," Rosalind Turner, who worked on the study with East Sussex Drugs Advisory Council, said. Children were arranging deliveries of drugs to their villages from telephone booths, "almost like dialling a pizza", she said.

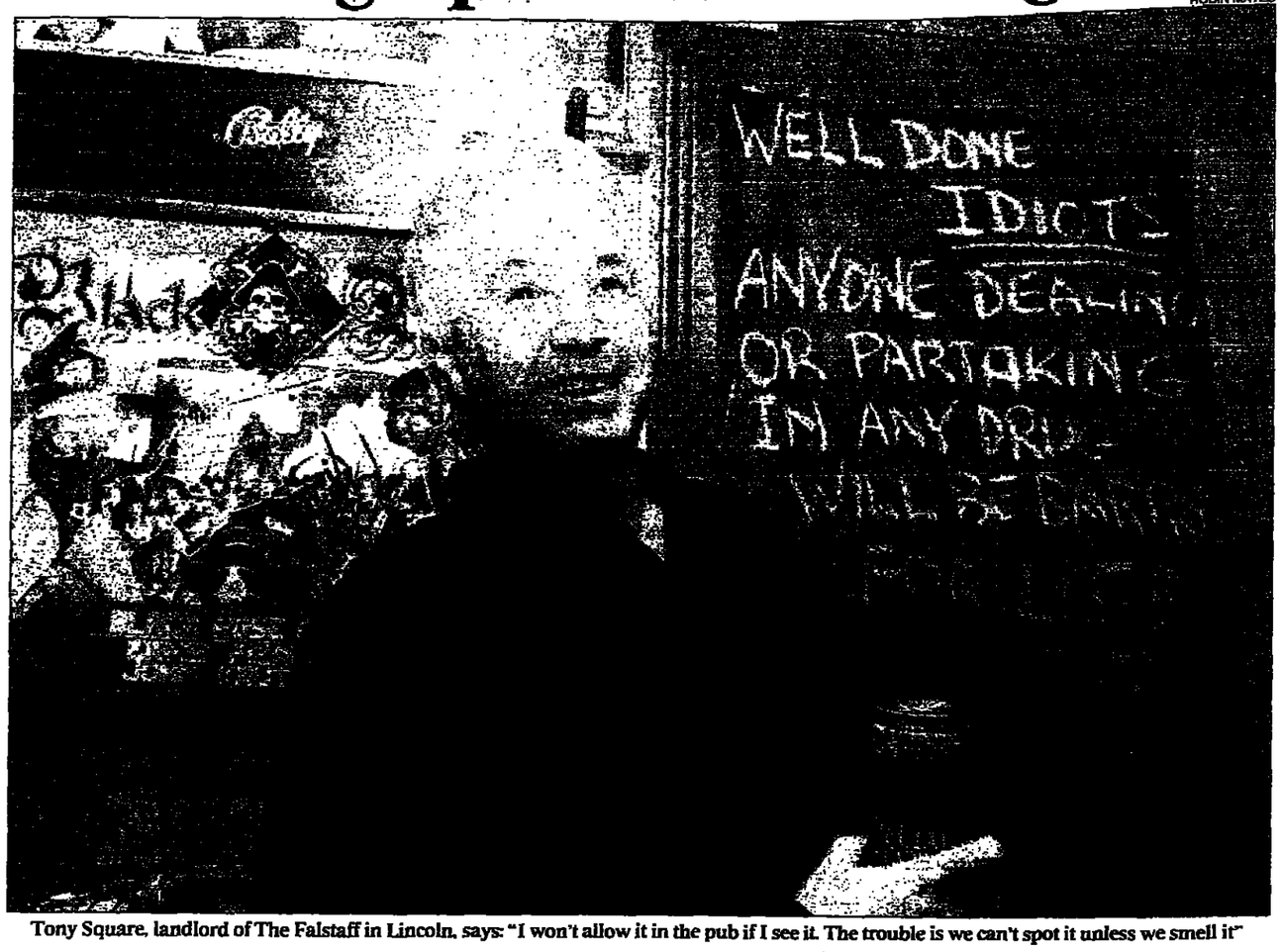
Magic mushrooms and veterinary tranquilisers are more commonly abused in the countryside, according to the addiction charity Release. Cannabis has become as common in rural villages as in the inner cities, and while cocaine's popularity is spreading, crack is only occasionally brought to the countryside. East Anglia has a problem of amphetamine abuse.

Particular health problems arise from the abuse of drugs in the shires. Addicts may have to travel long distances for advice, or to receive regular supplies of methadone. Those who inject drugs live long distances from the nearest exchange point supplying clean needles, vital to prevent the spread of HIV.

The highest rate of drugs seizures in Britain according to latest figures, (for 1992) is in Greater London (2,849 per million population). In England, the other highest counties are Merseyside (1,962), Wiltshire (1,621) and Gloucestershire (1,428). Scotland has a high rate of drugs seizures, particularly in Strathclyde (1,966), Central (1,640), Lothian and Borders (1,586), and Tayside (1,576). In Wales, Dyfed-Powys has the highest rate of drugs hauls (1,646).

The Times visited three of England's ancient shires, Lincolnshire, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, to discover how widespread drug use has become.

ROBIN MAYES



Tony Square, landlord of The Falstaff in Lincoln, says: "I won't allow it in the pub if I see it. The trouble is we can't spot it unless we smell it"

Cheap thrills in land of Tennyson's boyhood

By Emma Wilkins

■ In the past ten years rural Lincolnshire has gone from the bottom to the top of the national league for drug seizures

THE sprawling agricultural county which inspired George Eliot's *The Mill on the Floss* is experiencing such an explosion of drug abuse that police believe there is no street or hamlet in Lincolnshire where young people gather without its own drug scene.

Teenagers who once supplemented their incomes by picking the county's staple crops of cabbages, potatoes and sprouts, are more likely to be found spending money on cannabis, LSD or speed.

In 1984, Lincolnshire had the lowest rate of drug hauls in Britain, at 70 seizures per million population. In the latest year for which Home Office statistics are available, 1992, there were 656 seizures per million, exceeding the figure for the West Midlands.

Last month, the county's education department found it necessary to employ an assistant teacher to prepare anti-drug messages for primary school children, at a cost of almost £30,000, as most intelligence confirms that the habit is growing fastest among this group.

Det Insp Martyn Harrison of Lincolnshire police said: "With youngsters, a lot of the answer is experimentation. A lot of them are curious. They don't have to go very far to try to find it. It is in their own peer group. When people think about drugs, they think about inner cities and people dealing in the basements of tower blocks. We don't have any tower blocks but there is no part of Lincolnshire that doesn't have a drug problem."

The bishop of Lincoln, the Right Rev Robert Hardy, said: "A lot of people have got a slightly idealised picture of rural life, but Lincolnshire is quite a hard, deprived and isolated place. That makes it vulnerable to this problem and drug abuse is certainly an area of concern."

The bishop has noticed the regular gatherings of young people on the hill below the cathedral on Friday and Saturday nights. "It all looks fairly normal, but I'm not stupid enough to think that it is entirely innocent."

The Times visited The Falstaff, a pub in the shadow of Lincoln cathedral, one Friday night. In the disco area, Jamaican rhythms pumped through the sound system. One man admitted that he'd been busted by the drug squad and a group of youths in their mid-20s smoked joints. Silver paper, often used in the abuse of drugs ranging from cannabis to cocaine and heroin, lay crumpled under the tables.

Tony Square, 58, the landlord, said: "I won't allow it in the pub if I see it. A lot of sneaky things go on. I go to the toilet and find root ends which makes me cross, but I put my foot down. The trouble is we can't spot it unless we smell it.

"I caught somebody in the car park a long time ago with a syringe in his arm. That was it. He was banned for life. The only thing I have got against cannabis is that it is illegal. The police know that they smoke it in the car park."

Asked whether people had bought drugs on his premises, he said: "I would think it is quite possible that they have. I'm going to really go to town."

A wrap of "whizz", the street name for amphetamine sulphate, which cost £15 three years ago, is available for £10. Young people in Lincoln readily give you the address of a house where strangers call to buy cannabis.

In Louth, where the poet Tennyson was schooled, *The Times* arranged to buy LSD within minutes. After approaching a group of fresh-faced boys we asked for some tablets. The group had only Ecstasy on them, but said we could come back later for some "trips".

Crack has been seized in Skegness and Lincoln. Boston is the whizz capital of Lincolnshire. Abusers of amphetamine sulphate start by snorting, but often end up injecting, with all the risks of HIV infection from sharing needles.

Dean Riches, 26, a former drug user who dispenses advice, condoms and clean needles on behalf of South Lincolnshire health authority, said: "Whizz is everywhere now. There are girls of 14 and 15 using it in the town because they think it will help them lose weight. Speed gives you energy and takes all the realities away. It means you can play your Nintendo games for hours on end and not get tired."

Children as young as 13 are on LSD in Boston and one ten-year-old girl, a solvent abuser, has visited Mr Riches. "The cities are flooding through the villages now. We never had so much cocaine and smack round here before, but the dealers are bringing it out from Peterborough and local people are going there to buy it."

Market Rasen is said to be a "hotbed" of cannabis-smoking and the seaside resort of Mablethorpe has its own drug problem. The rural settlements of Caistor, Tetney, Holton le Clay and Binbrook in north Lincolnshire have all produced patients for their local addictions unit.

David Harding Price, a clinical nurse specialising in drug misuse, said youngsters are experimenting with valium and the depressant drug temazepam — both inexpensive ways of feeling drunk.

Nick Pyrgos, 51, sees many victims of drug abuse in his role as accident and emergency consultant for the county hospital. The "peak" ages of his patients are 15 and 16. Mr Pyrgos now believes cannabis, and possibly other drugs, should be legalised.

He said: "If you look at the resources committed by everybody in chasing those who use the softer drugs, I wonder whether it is a good investment."

Village youngsters join the queue for kicks

By Dominic Kennedy

AT nightfall in the Cotswolds village of Moreton-in-Marsh, young males gather in the bus shelter to smoke, exchange gossip and wait.

They could be sitting on the narrow wooden benches for hours until a car draws up, driven by an older boy who will take one of the group to the outskirts of the village to hand over a supply of LSD, speed or cannabis. The driver will then take his companion back to the bus shelter, where the drugs are distributed among the group. They wait because none is old enough to hold even a provisional driving licence — they are aged between 14 and 16.

The village bandstand is used as an evening meeting place for youngsters smoking cannabis. The pubs have managed to escape any drug problem: the children are too young to go inside.

This is Gloucestershire, which, along with its neighbour Wiltshire, has the highest rate of drug seizures in England outside Greater London and Merseyside. In the mid-1970s, the academic Martin Plant chose Cheltenham to study drug takers. He discovered a well-organised network of dealers supplying abusers among two communities: bohemian students and hardened criminals. Heroin and cannabis was available.

Today, the network of soft drugs has rolled over the hills into villages on the tourist trail such as Stow-on-the-Wold, where teenagers smoke cannabis in the churchyard or in friends' cars.

Earlier this year, a local youth was arrested allegedly offering LSD and speed (amphetamine sulphate) near Chipping Campden's comprehensive school and outside the youth club.

"The age of the children who were taking this stuff really surprised us. We are looking at children as young as 13 taking LSD," said Sergeant Mike Bundy, who works at drug enforcement in the Cotswolds. He is certain that the availability of drugs in the countryside has contributed to the 17 per cent increase in rural crime in the county last year — compared with a 1 per cent fall in urban areas such as Gloucester.

Sergeant Bundy estimates that 80 per cent of the drugs in the area are originally supplied by new-age travellers, whose encampments are frequently visited by youths.

Cheltenham, though, is the hub of trade. In the elegant town centre, a tattooed man assured *The Times* that we would be able to acquire a wrap of speed easily.

Dr Jeffrey Marks, consultant psychiatrist at Cheltenham General Hospital's drugs rehabilitation unit, is one of half a dozen doctors in Britain to prescribe heroin and amphetamines as treatment on the NHS.

"When you mention Cheltenham, you think of retired colonels in bath chairs, the Ladies' College and the races — you don't think of class A drugs," he said. "People of my generation find it hard to believe that drugs are so common nowadays among the young."

ROBIN MAYES



Youths share the smoke from a cannabis cigarette

GLOSSARY

■ **Cannabis** (blow, dope, pot, grass): induces feelings of elation. Linked to organic brain damage. Costs £15 per sixteenth-ounce.
■ **Amphetamine sulphate** (whizz, Billy, speed): euphoria, talkativeness. Risks: psychological dependence, contamination from shared needles. £10 per sixteenth-ounce "wrap".
■ **LSD** (trips): hallucinations, panic or violence during a bad trip. Illusion that one can fly. £2-£4 per tablet.
■ **Ecstasy** (E, doves): euphoria, desire to be tactile. Toxic side effects, dehydration. £10-£20 per tablet.
■ **Temazepam** (eggs): lightheadedness, release of inhibitions. Feelings of confusion or aggression. £1-£5 per tablet.
■ **Heroin** (smack, H, Harry, smoke, scag): euphoria, loss of anxiety. Overdosing, addiction, contaminated dose. £15 for a sixteenth-ounce.
■ **Cocaine** (coke): exhilaration, euphoria. Paranoid delusions, psychological dependence. £40-£60 per gramme.
■ **Crack** (rocks): extreme euphoria. High risk of quick dependence, feelings of distress. From £10-£25 per rock.
■ **Solvents**: often household goods. Induce intoxication, hallucination. Risks: accidental death, heart attack.

Research: The Times/Release

Tough cannabis fines 'are not the answer'

By Richard Ford
Home Correspondent

POLICE and magistrates' leaders yesterday attacked Michael Howard's plan to increase the maximum fine for possession of cannabis and other soft drugs fivefold to £2,500.

The Home Secretary was accused of failing to think through the implications and lawyers and the Police Federation warned him that it would result in more unpaid fines, leading to more people in jail.

Rosemary Thomson, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, said that Mr Howard was playing "declamatory politics" with the criminal justice system. "The fact of the matter for sentencers, who deal with reality, is that few cases of possession reach the magistrates courts. Police officers seem to be cautioning or doing nothing about possession for personal use."

The police are privately angry that they have not been consulted on yet another issue with far-reaching consequences for police work. One source said: "This will not help the policeman on the beat."

Mike Bennett, chairman of the Metropolitan Police branch of the Police Federation, said that announcing an increase in the fine would not make the problem go away. Many people would be unable to afford the extra penalty.

Richard Coyles, chairman of the Police Federation, said that increasing the maximum fine to £2,500 would have no effect as magistrates rarely implemented the present maximum fine of £500. "We know there is a link between crime and drugs," he said. "Fines at this level will mean more people committing crime to pay them."

Mr Howard's plan to increase the maximum fine for the first time since 1977 is intended to signal to the public that the courts will treat drug taking seriously. The onslaught from police and magistrates' leaders, however, has clearly taken the Home Secretary by surprise.

Last night the Home Office insisted that no decision had been taken on whether to increase the maximum fine. A spokesman said Mr Howard was still considering whether to table an amendment to increase the maximum fine.

His plan comes despite pressure from drug agencies and some senior police officers for the Government to consider decriminalising possession of cannabis.

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Beneficent Branson may cheat big names of lottery windfall

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

TODAY is the last day for bids to be submitted to run the national lottery which, with a turnover of £4 billion a year, will become one of the country's biggest businesses.

At least eight groups have said they will present formal tenders to operate the lottery. The appearance of a non-profit making bidder has brought to the forefront the question of just how much charities will benefit from each bidder's plans.

The winner is expected to be announced in May. Whoever wins the licence is expected to distribute half of the take from lottery ticket sales in prize money, creating one millionaire a week. From the remaining proceeds, 12 per cent is to go in tax, and 23 per cent to the arts, heritage, sport, charities and the Millennium Fund. The licence holder will be left with a maximum of 15 per cent to cover costs and profit. City analysts predict up to £120 million.

The bid from Richard Branson, chairman of the Virgin group, and Lord Young of Graffham, chairman of Cable & Wireless and Margaret Thatcher's former Trade Secretary, differs from the commercial bids in that it proposes to put the operator's profit back into the charity pool. Companies such as Marks & Spencer, which had previously shunned any part in selling lottery tickets, are now saying that they would back an entirely charitable bid, adding to the political attraction of the Branson plan.

Although Mr Davis, a former non-executive chairman of Abbey National, is obliged to choose the operator strictly on its ability to deliver the best-run lottery, some city analysts believe that John Major's Government is under pressure to favour bidders offering most for good causes. However, the commercial bidders will claim that they can increase the size of the total take and will therefore deliver the most to charity. If more commercial operators are prepared to join for charity than for profit, that argument could yet be disproved. These are the known contenders:

☐ Camelot: a consortium made up of Cadbury Schweppes, the food and beverages empire; De La Rue, the bank note and security printers; ICL, the computer group; Racal, the network management company; and G-Tech, the American company that is the world's leading supplier of lottery systems.

☐ Games for Good Causes: comprises Ladbroke's, the bookmaker, and MAI, the financial services and media group. It is run by Malcolm Hughes, former managing director of Vernons Pools, and promises to create jobs in the north of England.

☐ The Great British Lottery Company: widely considered to be one of the favourites, the consortium brings together the media muscle of Granada, Carlton Communications and Associated Newspapers with Vodafone, the cellular phone company, and the financial strength of Hambros Bank. The TV companies envisage a Saturday night "millionaire" programme.

☐ NM Rothschild & Tattersalls: a venture marrying the expertise of the Tasmanian Tattersalls group, involved in lotteries since 1881, with the blue-chip bank.

☐ Rainbow: an alliance, headed by Sir Patrick Sheehy, chairman of BAT Industries, in harness with Leo Burnett, the advertising agency. It effectively quit the main race last week by announcing that it wants only the scratch card part of the lottery business.

☐ Rank: could be among the favourites with its bought-in expertise, which includes Automated Wagering International, the American rival of Camelot's G-Tech.

☐ GEC/Tote/Thorn EMI: a secretive group comprising specialist betting and corporate strengths.

☐ UK Lottery Foundation: the Branson/Young team backed by the technology of IBM, big high-street retailers, churches and charities is the greatest headache for the commercial bidders.

M&S rethink, page 44

Time for action to safeguard Britain's ancient liberties

A Bill of Rights and strong local government are needed if democracy is to be preserved, ***Shirley Williams*** *writes*

The Times Essay

Britain's unwritten constitution has been admired for its flexibility, adaptability and capacity to survive centuries of industrial change, wars, social upheavals and a widening suffrage.

Our constitution is not a simple unitary structure. While there is no formal separation of powers, as in the United States Constitution, there are checks and balances meant to restrain the excessive or arbitrary use of executive powers. The most significant of these has been the alternation of government between the parties.

This alternation underpins a second restraint on the government of the day: the commitment of the civil service to give disinterested advice. Civil servants cannot be wholly unaware of their career prospects. If one party regularly replaces another, as in the period between 1959 and 1979, civil servants must be able to demonstrate their loyalty to either. That, in turn, reinforces the idea that public service is more than loyalty to a particular party.

Elected local government, from the 1880s on, acted not only as a check on central government. More important, it offered Opposition parties an outlet for their ideas and energies and an opportunity to learn how to govern. That wise observer of democracy Alexis de Tocqueville wrote at the time of the French Revolution: "The strengths of free peoples resides in the local community, and without local institutions a nation may give itself free government, but it has not got the spirit of liberty."

Most local councils in Britain have acted responsibly and honourably. Requirements for auditing their finances, holding open meetings and explaining what they are doing, have kept local government accountable to its electors.

Unfortunately the actions of a handful of foolish councils led, in the 1980s, to a sustained campaign by central government against local government. Most of its responsibilities — from further education and health to water and schools — have been or are being stripped away.

That leaves the legislature and the judiciary. Commentators on our constitutional practice have made much of the sovereignty of Parliament, the core of British democracy. It is to Parliament, the representatives of the people, that ministers are accountable. But it is important to address the reality behind the ideal. The reality is that the same party dominates both executive and Parliament. MPs long ago traded their independent voices for the loyalty that would bring them preferment, patronage and position. Only a brave handful have stood out against these pressures. Once a bill is published, however ill-drafted or badly thought out, there is an inevitability about its passage to the statute book.

Once in a while a bill so outrages opinion that it has to be modified. Examples are the draconian powers taken by the Home Secretary in the police and magistrates' courts bill, described by Viscount Whitelaw on its second reading in the Lords as "a very dangerous move indeed".

Unhindered by Parliament, the executive has steadily tightened its grip. Consultation with those affected by legislation is short and superficial. Whole functions and services, once the purview of elected local government, have been put under the control of quangos to which some 10,000 appointments are made every year.

That would matter less if ministerial accountability actually worked. Even the most conscientious minister is aware of only a tiny part of the work of his or her department. We have been told that John Major did not know about the changed criteria for trade in machine tools with Iraq.

Accountability for the work of quangos is a murky area. In many cases the names of board members are not even published. Some board members are well paid for the job they do, which makes it the more outrageous that they are not accessible to the public they are meant to serve. Not all quangos are subject to audit, the strongest safeguard for the proper use of public money. Many keep the public out of their meetings.

It is not surprising that some quangos have misused public money. In its eighth report, *The Proper Conduct of Public Business*, the all-party House of Commons public accounts committee draws attention to cases of misused or wasted public money. "These failings," the committee says, "represent a departure from the standards of public conduct which have mainly been established during the past 140 years."

The sums wasted or misused are not small. Wessex Regional Health Authority wasted £20 million, West Midlands Regional Health Authority £10 million, the National Rivers Authority £1 million. As disturbing is the evidence of dubious practices including golden handshakes for incompetent officials or keeping contracts within a narrow circle.

One other dimension of the growth in executive power is the burgeoning of secondary legislation. More of the legislation brought before Parliament now is framework, to be filled in by a host of statutory instruments or orders. Parliamentary control over secondary legislation is exiguous.

It is difficult to get time to debate secondary legislation at any depth. The last time the Lords challenged a statutory instrument by a direct vote was in 1982. Yet statutory instruments deal with some of the most sensitive issues of all.

The newest incursion on Parliament's prerogative to pass or repeal primary legislation is Michael Heseltine's deregulation or contracting-out bill. For the first time, if the bill is passed, ministers will have the power to amend or repeal primary legislation over a vast range "for the purpose of reducing or removing a burden".

Removing unnecessary and burdensome regulations is to be applauded, but doing so by sweeping away Parliament's fundamental right to amend or repeal primary legislation is dangerous. It establishes a terrifying precedent. Some of the areas Mr Heseltine proposes to deregulate are highly contentious: undertakings by firms instead of references to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission; the exemption of certain restrictive trade agreements from the existing law; greater secrecy to cover commercially sensitive information; and the loosening of controls over residential care and nursing homes.

British democracy is not guaranteed by any Bill of Rights or written constitution. It depends on the self-restraint of ministers and the even-handedness of civil servants. After 15 years of government by one party, polarisation between the parties and the rejection of consensus even in areas where stability of policy is essential, it would be foolhardy to rely on either.

We depend on the free media and the judges to guard our ancient liberties, though sadly the press shows little interest nowadays in parliamentary debates. Constitutional reform — a Bill of Rights, laws ensuring freedom of information and strong regional and local government — is long overdue.

STEPHEN MARKESON



Shirley Williams, who in 1981 co-founded the SDP and became its first MP: executive "unhindered by Parliament"

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hunger striker ends fast

Hunger striker John Liles has ended his fast after spending nearly 59 days without food. His wife Doreen, of Newport, Gwent, said he was eating one meal a day, and taking tablets for a heart condition.

Liles, 42, is serving a five-year sentence at Dartmoor prison for grievous bodily harm with intent on a man who cannot be named for legal reasons. The man went into a coma after the attack on March 19 last year, and has not regained consciousness. Liles has pleaded his innocence.

Fire death

One man died and another was seriously injured in a fire in a flat at Pimlico, west London. Terry Hughes, 49, the survivor, who lived at the flat, has been charged with being drunk and disorderly.

Shot boy dies

Danny Sondergaard, 14, of Rainham, Kent, who was left with a lead pellet in his brain after playing with an air rifle, has died.

Driver stabbed

Alan Cox, 60, of Bristol, was stabbed by a man who opened his car door and lunged at him with a knife. A 26-year-old Bristol man has been arrested.

Body found

The body of Jacqueline Webb, 43, missing for nearly a month after a family dispute, has been found in a wood at Sherfield English, Hampshire.

Love me, fender

Elvis Presley's monogrammed gold Cadillac has been bought by the Cars of the Stars museum in Keswick, Cumbria.

Bird of pray

Firemen answered a 999 call in Mexborough, South Yorkshire, to rescue a bird in a tree — a kestrel caught by its jess.

Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings premium bond draw are: £100,000, bond number 16YL 815193, location of winner Channel Islands, (value of holding £5,888); £50,000, 4BS 030111, Kent (£22); £25,000, 12HN 056006, Merseyside, (£6,106).

THE TIMES

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KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Indian upset

Indian amateur Gokhale defeated grandmaster David Norwood early in the Goodricke in Calcutta.

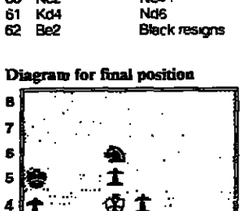
White: Gokhale

Black: Norwood

Modern Defence

1	d4	g6
2	e4	d6
3	Nc3	c6
4	Be3	Bg7
5	Qd2	Nd7
6	0-0-0	b5
7	Bd3	Nb6
8	h4	h5
9	Nh3	Nf6
10	f3	Bxh3
11	Rxh3	e6
12	Qe2	b4
13	Nb1	Nfd7
14	Nd2	c5
15	Nb3	0-0
16	e5	cxd4
17	Bg5	Qc7
18	g4	hxg4
19	fxg4	Nxe5
20	h5	Nd5
21	Kb1	Rac8
22	hxg6	fxg6
23	Be6	Rb8
24	Nxd4	Qb6
25	Bc4	Rbe8
26	Bb3	Nc7
27	Qe1	Qe6
28	Bh6	Bxh6
29	Rxh6	Kg7
30	Qh4	Nf7
31	Rh7+	Kg8
32	Rh1	Nd5
33	g5	Nxg5
34	Rh8+	Kg7
35	Qh6+	Kf7
36	Rxd8+	Rxd8
37	Qxg5	Ke8
38	Qd2	Rf1+
39	Rxf1	Qxf1+
40	Qc1	Qf6
41	Ne2	Qe5
42	Qd1	Ne3
43	Qg1	g5
44	Qg3	Qxg3
45	Nxg3	Ke7
46	Kc1	d5
47	Kd2	Ng4
48	Ne2	Kd6
49	Nd4	a5
50	Nf3	e5
51	Nxg5	e4
52	Nf7+	Kc5
53	Nd8	Nf6
54	c3	Kb5
55	Ne6	a4
56	Nd4+	Ka5
57	Bd1	bxc3+
58	bxc3	Nd7
59	Ke3	Nb6
60	Nc2	Nc4+
61	Kd4	Nd6
62	Be2	Black resigns

Diagram for final position



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Wedded stars make the cameraman blush as they bare all in a new film and hope everybody likes it hot

Hollywood hype adds sizzling raunch to family values

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

FILM stars Kim Basinger and Alec Baldwin bared body and soul to American filmgoers at the weekend, exploiting their real life marriage to allay public doubts about sex on the screen.

In their much-hyped remake of *The Getaway*, Basinger and Baldwin perform some of the most explicit sex scenes served up by Hollywood since Basinger herself undressed for Mickey Rourke in *9½ Weeks*. But in a clear sign of how sexual mores have changed since then, the fact that the stars of *The Getaway* are married in real life is, for many cinemagoers, the only thing that makes its high raunch factor acceptable.

"I felt comfortable because they were married. If not, it would have been too much," said Debra St Lawrence, as she left a first-night screening. "It was hot, almost too hot," said another woman. Men tended to view Basinger's naked silhouette more willingly. "Did it go too far? I don't know what too far is," said Ms St Lawrence's boy friend, Steve. "It was certainly striking to see Kim Basinger like that."



Kim Basinger and husband Alec Baldwin star in a remake of *The Getaway* with extra erotic touches. A box-office hit would help pay damages Basinger incurred after refusing *Boxing Helena*

The American film industry faces the threat of legislation to curb sex and violence in its output if it fails to control them itself. In this climate, Basinger and Baldwin have become the leading ambassadors of "hot monogamy" — an Aids-era formula that studios hope will be seen as portraying safe sex and bolstering the "family values" to which Americans perennially aspire, without denting box-office receipts.

Tamer films which fall into the same category include *Far and Away* (Tom Cruise and his wife, Nicole Kidman), *Bugsy* (Warren Beatty and Annette Bening) and last year's *Flesh and Bone*, with the then newly-weds Dennis Quaid and Meg Ryan. Beatty and Bening are set to continue the trend with *Love Affair* later this year. In *The Getaway*, Basinger and Baldwin were ready to give the American public all the heat it could take. The uncut version was reported to have had test audiences squirming and the cameraman not knowing where to look.

"We did a lot of pretty heavy stuff," Baldwin said in a television interview. "The steadicam operator would be going up and down our bodies, panning in and going back. When they cut, he would put the camera down, and lean against the wall and go 'Oh, my God.' He was so embarrassed."

Baldwin has described the scenes with his wife as "insanely erotic". One reason for his tabloid-friendly candour may be an urgent personal need for the film to make money. As Basinger's husband, the $7.4 million (£5 million) damages against her in the *Boxing Helena* trial last year are his problems, too.

Basinger was sued by a production company for allegedly breaking an agreement to star in Jennifer Lynch's film about a woman whose arms and legs are cut off by a doctor who is obsessed with her. That film bombed. Basinger will be hoping this one can get her out of a hot spot. If love scenes in *The Getaway* make it a hit, it will be thanks to Basinger, Baldwin and director Roger Donaldson. In the novel on which it is based, and the original film with Steve McQueen and Ali MacGraw, the hero is impotent.



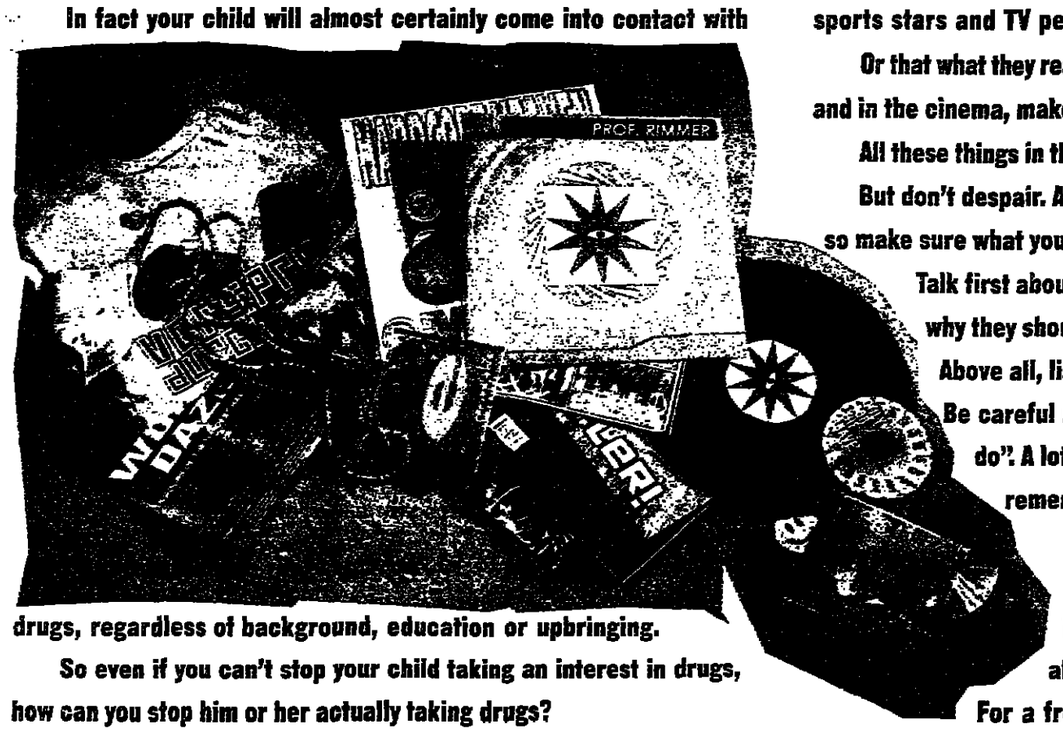
In a safe-sex formula, films often match married couples in top roles, like Warren Beatty and Annette Bening in *Bugsy*

If more parents took an interest in drugs, fewer children would.

Has it ever crossed your mind that your child might take drugs?

Or do you merely dismiss drugs as a problem that will only ever happen to other people's children?

In fact your child will almost certainly come into contact with drugs, regardless of background, education or upbringing.



So even if you can't stop your child taking an interest in drugs, how can you stop him or her actually taking drugs?

Don't start by using threats. As a parent you may fear drugs and everything to do with them, and it's tempting to pass that fear on.

But this won't help either of you.

Teenagers tend to experiment with the things that frighten them. And as you'll probably remember from your own childhood, activities which are forbidden seem that much more attractive.

Listen to what your child has to say.

Encourage your child to explain their views. Only when you understand what your child thinks about drugs can you start to influence them. You might find your child wants nothing to do with drugs. In which case you'll feel happier having cleared the air. (But be careful not to assume that talking about drugs once, is enough).

You might find that they see it as something glamorous and exciting; something that their favourite film stars, rock stars, sports stars and TV personalities do.

Or that what they read in magazines, what they watch on television and in the cinema, make it much more interesting.

All these things in the media make a parent's job so much harder.

But don't despair. At least now you've an idea of what to expect, so make sure what you've got to say about drugs makes sense.

Talk first about why they'd want to take them. Then explain why they shouldn't take them.

Above all, listen, then put forward your thoughts.

Be careful not to come across as "Do as I say not as I do". A lot of parents do like a drink or a cigarette, so remember your child may question your actions.

And remember you can be your child's most reliable source of information about drugs.

If you are in doubt, or need to know more about the subject, there is a leaflet available.

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If you don't talk to your child about drugs, someone else will.

Assault suspect wins ticket to Olympic ice duel

FROM KATE MUIR IN NEW YORK

THE undignified frenzy surrounding the attempt of Tonya Harding, the figure skater, to compete in the Winter Olympics is over — for at least a few days. The United States Olympic Committee resigned itself early yesterday to allowing her to skate in the Lillehammer Games as the dispute threatened to upstage other competitions.

Lawyers for the committee and Harding spent seven hours hatching a deal on Saturday, in which the skater agreed to drop her $25 million (£16.6 million) lawsuit against the committee.

While it is retaining the authority to discipline Harding, it said: "For the moment, that matter is stilled." The committee noted in its statement that there had not only been an assault on Nancy Kerrigan, her rival, but "an assault on the basic ideals of the Olympic movement".

Harding remains a suspect in the criminal investigation of the assault last month on Kerrigan. Jeff Gillooly, Harding's former husband, in return for a reduced sentence, has implicated his wife in the conspiracy to club Kerrigan on the knee.

Harding has admitted that she had withheld information about the attack, while innocent people were being interrogated.

There have been public calls for Harding, 24, to resign her place in the team, but she has treated these with the same stubbornness and street-fighting style that have been the hallmarks of her career.

Waiting in her home state of Oregon at the weekend, she refused to undersell herself. "I can finally prove to the world I can win a gold medal," she said.

When Kerrigan appeared at a press conference in Lillehammer on Saturday, 1,500 reporters turned up, almost as many as those covering the reindeer in Norwegian costume who appeared at the opening ceremony. She attempted to point out to "you guys" that there were plenty of great athletes and great stories beyond the drama in her own rink, and suggested they watch the Games rather than her morning practice sessions.

The journalists were only interested in the new possibility of a clash of the titans if the two women start practising together when Harding arrives in Norway on Wednesday. They were interested in Kerrigan's feelings about Harding's announcement that she would like to hug her rival. "I don't know how I'm going to feel when I see her," Kerrigan said. "That's personal."

Winter Games, pages 23, 25



Harding: agreed to withdraw $25m suit

Japan backs firm stance on trade

FROM ROBERT STERN IN TOKYO

AT A 1992 summit Bill Clinton gave Boris Yeltsin some friendly advice about negotiating with the Japanese. He allegedly said that the Japanese always say "yes" when they mean "no". After the resounding "no" that Morihiro Hosokawa, the Prime Minister, gave to American demands designed to reduce Japan's $60 billion (£41 billion) trade surplus with America, Mr Clinton may be revising that assessment.

Mr Hosokawa's refusal, despite intense American pressure, has met with broad support at home. Any national pride in Mr Hosokawa's stance, however, is tempered by deep concern that the negotiating impasse may provoke a trade war at a time of severe recession.

Japanese economists, politicians and businessmen have voiced almost universal support for Mr Hosokawa's rejection of the Clinton Administration's proposals that numerical targets be used to measure the openness of Japan's markets. Yohei Kono, the opposition Liberal Democratic Party president, said on Saturday: "To accept such targets would mean abandoning the principle of free trade and would go against the drive for deregulation."

Newspaper editorials and television analysts are making much of the "new era of US-Japan relations" marked by the Washington summit, where Mr Hosokawa claimed Japan's newfound frankness signalled that the two countries had entered "a relationship as adults".

Hiroshi Kumagai, the Trade and Industry Minister, echoed this sentiment in Tokyo. "Japan and the US have entered a stage to create a relationship where one side is no longer subordinate to the other".

The worry for the Japanese is what comes next. Mr Kumagai hoped that the Washington summit marked "a comma, not a full stop" in trade negotiations, but few believe the two countries can narrow their differences soon.

Most Japanese businessmen are bracing themselves for a barrage of unilateral measures that America may take. On Friday, Mr Clinton mentioned exchange rates as a possible means, and the dollar promptly fell to an almost three-month low.

Britain woos Russia as Nato momentum builds for bombing raids on artillery around Sarajevo

Major will give Yeltsin assurance on West's role

By Philip Webster, political editor, and Anne McElvoy in Moscow

JOHN Major will assure President Yeltsin tomorrow that the West has no intention of becoming embroiled in the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Prime Minister and Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, fly to Moscow today hoping to persuade Mr Yeltsin that Nato's decision last week to threaten air strikes against the Serbs was justified.

On a three-day trip designed to bolster Russia's flagging reform efforts, Mr Major and Mr Hurd will be anxious to keep Mr Yeltsin on side, after Russia's acceptance at the weekend that air strikes could have a value "as a last resort" to protect UN troops stationed around Sarajevo.

Andrei Kozyrev, the Russian Foreign Minister, said that Nato could carry out strikes after consultation with the UN Security Council, and implied that Russia would not use its veto. He added: "If UN forces call for air strikes and the Secretary-General takes the decision in consultation with the Security Council, that is something which we consider conceivable and possible — although not welcome."

The Security Council meets today at Moscow's instigation to discuss Nato's threat to use air power if forces around the Bosnian capital do not pull back their heavy artillery.

With Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the extreme nationalist leader, determined to embarrass the Russian government over its stance on Bosnia — yesterday he threatened to send volunteers to kill Muslims in Bosnia if Nato launched air strikes — Mr Major and Mr Hurd are aware of the sensitivity of their mission. Russia initially took a tough stance on threatened Nato air strikes against Bosnian Serbs besieging Sarajevo, saying such a step would only fuel the 22-month civil war. However, Mr Kozyrev softened that line on Saturday. His volte-face comes before his meeting tomorrow with Mr Hurd. Their talks are likely to be dominated by discussions of future international reaction to Bosnia and the fate of Russia's reforms after the reshuffle of the Cabinet last month, weighting it towards more conservative figures.

President Yeltsin is under pressure from nationalists and Communists in the Russian parliament to oppose the threat of air strikes against the Serbs, Russia's historical allies. But after telephone consulation with President Clinton on Friday, Mr Yeltsin has apparently decided to try to keep Moscow in line with the international community.

British officials insist that there are only "nuances of difference" between Russia and the West. The known doubts of Mr Major and Mr Hurd about air strikes will, they hope, help to persuade Mr Yeltsin that the decision to impose an ultimatum was correct, but strictly limited to the goal of lifting the Sarajevo siege. The Kremlin seems anxious to show that its foreign policy is not hostage to pressure from hardliners, with Mr Kozyrev emphasising consistency.

☐ **Athens:** Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, last night expressed misgivings about Nato air strikes, but said: "We must now allow our political leaders to make decisions and live with them."

Rose interview, page 1
Nightmare children, page 14
Peter Riddell, page 16
Leading article and letters, page 17



A weapons crew on the aircraft carrier *USS Saratoga* in the Adriatic loading a missile on to an American fighter jet in preparation for possible Nato air strikes in Bosnia

War fever exposes vulnerability of relief workers in Bosnia

From Adam LeBor in Zagreb

THE United Nations aid operation to central Bosnia continued over the weekend in spite of the threat of air strikes against the Bosnian Serbs, but convoys were held up by heavy fighting between Bosnian Croats and mainly Muslim government forces in central Bosnia, UN relief officials said yesterday.

Five convoys left the UN warehouse depot in Metkovic en route to the Bosnian government-held town of Zenica in central Bosnia. Zenica is the hub of the relief operation in the region and its warehouses provide food and supplies for dozens of nearby towns and villages.

However, intense fighting at the strategically vital town of Gornji Vakuf prevented them from arriving. Gornji Vakuf is an important staging post on Route Diamond, the main aid route into central Bosnia from the Croatian coast that crosses the front lines between Bosnian Croat and Bosnian government-held territory.

Some convoys returned to Metkovic while others were waiting yesterday at the Bosnian Croat stronghold of Tomislavgrad. Ron Redmond, a spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, said in Zagreb. Three aid workers delayed from leaving Banja Luka in Bosnian Serb-controlled territory last week arrived in Zagreb over the weekend. Bosnian Serb authorities had demanded that all relief workers wanting to leave must now apply for permission 48 hours in advance, raising fears among aid officials that they could be held hostage. "They were not too happy at being detained and we were upset that no one informed us about the new rules," Mr Redmond said.



The threat of air strikes has highlighted the already precarious position of the hundreds of aid workers, including many local staff, stretched out across Bosnia. Many of those not based in Serb-occupied territory, such as aid workers in Vitez in central Bosnia, are still vulnerable to Bosnian Serb reprisals as they are within range of the Serbs' heavy artillery.

Relief officials will judge security considerations for the different regions after any air strikes. One aid official said: "There is already a security contingency plan in place for Bosnia because it is so dangerous there. We might have to stop in some areas but the aid operation could carry on in others."

☐ **Pale:** The Bosnian Serbs, excluded from the Winter Olympics in Norway, are staging their own parallel competition this week to mark the tenth anniversary of the Games in Sarajevo. Only Serbs are expected to compete. *(Reuter)*

Rose will make attack decision

Continued from page 1

he moved the first contingent of a 1,000-member Malaysian United Nations battalion alongside the French UN troops on the hitherto dangerous Sarajevo front line, in an attempt to consolidate the remarkable and rather eerie ceasefire.

The American Embassy in Belgrade evacuated diplomats' families as a precaution against Serb reprisals, amid reports that, in defiance of the air strike threat, Serb commanders had called a halt to the handover of heavy weapons, demanding that Bosnian Muslim forces pull back from the front line. But the Serbs later handed over five artillery pieces to UN control at the Mokro barracks, southeast of Sarajevo.

Approximately 2,000 troops are involved in the UN operation. General Rose talked tough even though the relatively small number of "blue helmets" would be little match for either side if open hostilities were to resume.

The former SAS commander's tours in Yemen, the Falkland Islands and Northern Ireland make him the most experienced commander of the UN troops in Bosnia so far. "Our mandate gives us freedom of movement, unimpeded access, and the right of self-defence, and we will demand that," General Rose said, adding that UN troops would confront Muslim, Serb or Croat forces who hampered their work.

Since assuming the post last month, he has taken a sterner, more forceful approach to handling the parties to the conflict than his two francophone predecessors. In his few short weeks in the post, he seems to have convinced the Serbs and the Bosnian government that he means business, and that where previous commanders turned the other cheek, he would not.

"Don't expect us to come out with guns blazing, we are not combatants here," he said. If the Serbs resume shelling the city, he said, air strikes would be used to ensure those guns fell silent and stayed that way, not to punish the Serbs.

When the guns have been quiet long enough, General Rose believes, the resumption of normal life will bring about a solution.

Hungary to suspend surveillance flights

By Adam LeBor

HUNGARY will refuse the use of its air space for Nato surveillance missions if air strikes are launched against the Bosnian Serbs. The decision reflects an increasing rapprochement between Budapest and Belgrade.

At present, Hungary allows Nato aircraft on surveillance missions over former Yugoslavia to use Hungarian air space. But, mindful of the 400,000 ethnic Hungarians living in northern Serbia, Budapest is trying to balance its strongly pro-Western policies and desire to join Nato and the European Union against coping with the neighbouring Milosevic regime.

A government official said, however, that although Awacs "planes could not use Hungarian air space during the few hours when strikes take place" they "were welcome to continue monitoring the skies over Bosnia if no attacks were under way".

Norse warrior plans tough action to reopen Tuzla airfield



***Anthony Loyd** in Tuzla meets the Norwegian colonel determined to open the way for airlifted aid that would bypass the controls Serb and Croat gunmen impose on overland convoys*

TO OPEN Tuzla aerodrome Lieutenant Colonel Bengt Berlin wants Leopard tanks. He also wants close air support. In the wake of Sarajevo's market massacre and the subsequent Western show of resolve, he may get both.

Colonel Berlin is second-in-command of the Tuzla-based Nordic Battalion, a composite unit including Swedes, Danes and Norwegians. His dry manner and piercing gaze through tinted, circular spectacles add a sinister edge to this belligerent Norseman. In November he deployed a Milan anti-tank missile and strike aircraft in an intimidatory role to secure the release of three Swedish troops taken hostage by a platoon of renegade Chetniks near Vares.

Now he has been ordered to prepare Tuzla airfield, closed since its destruction by the retreating Yugoslav National Army in May 1992, for UN aid flights. He has some definite ideas as to how to go about it.

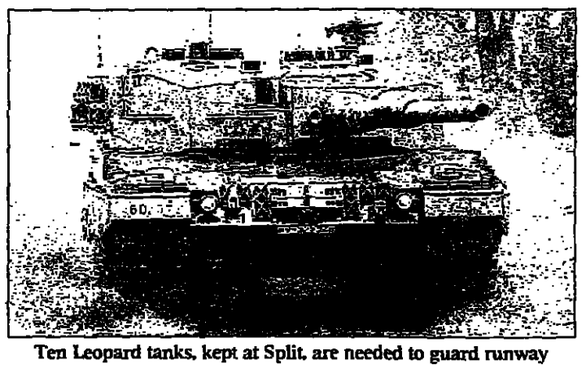
"If anyone shoots at us with small arms, then we return fire with small arms. If it is heavy machinegun fire, then we reply with heavy machineguns. If they shoot at us with a tank, we must reply with a tank. Artillery we cannot see, so the only thing we can hit back with is close air support," he said in his forward headquarters near the damaged runway.

In addition to forcing the withdrawal of Serb guns around Sarajevo and effecting the UN troop rotation in Srebrenica, the UN has postulated close air support as a means of opening up Tuzla airfield. Now, in its present mood, which no longer agonises over potential withdrawal but instead over how, what and where to strike, the Swedes are within three weeks of preparing the airfield.

A stream of pilots, flight engineers and logistics experts have added their advice on layout and flight path. Built for military purposes in 1962, the airport could enable the UN to fly up to 200 tons of aid per day at maximum capacity directly into Bosnia, avoiding the overland routes through Herzegovina and Serbia.

"At present all aid has to pass through Bosnian Serb or Bosnian Croat territory. That means the warring parties have total control over everything coming into Bosnia," said Colonel Berlin. "So its opening is a high-priority operation."

The Serbs are unhappy at the prospect and shell the runway regularly from hillsides only five miles to the east, with artillery and tank fire. A flow of aid into Bosnia over which they had no control would deprive them of a valuable bargaining chip. So in addition to the technical lighting, control, repair and instrument landing systems, Colonel Berlin wants his ten Leopard tanks, languishing in Split on the Dalmatian coast as the UN prevaricates over details regarding their suitability in an aid operation.



Ten Leopard tanks, kept at Split, are needed to guard runway

"We need them, because if we are determined to open the airfield we must stay even if we are shelled," said the colonel. "The only thing we can do that with, at reasonable risk to my soldiers, is main battle tanks." He plans to deploy the tanks first to secure the perimeter, then to provide mobile observation posts to monitor the Serb positions that threaten the operation. Earlier wrangling between the UN and Bosnian Serbs over approval of the plan, in which the Serbs demanded the right to open their military airfield at Banja Luka in return for stopping their bombardments, have subsided as talk by Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose of "determined approach", "robust means" and "consequences" takes effect.

"Unprofor doesn't have to have the approval of the Serbs to open Tuzla airfield. It would be entirely run by the UN, with Bosnian Serb monitors present, in the same way as Sarajevo," said Colonel Berlin. "The UN mandate here is to feed the needy population. That involves opening roads and Tuzla airfield. It is all part of the mission. We should be respected as a third party that is not part of the war. If someone doesn't respect us, they must take the consequences. Consequences are something they have not been taking recently."

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Major lobbies EC leaders for Brittan to replace Delors

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

■ Ruud Lubbers, Prime Minister of The Netherlands, is favourite to take over the European Commission presidency. But Sir Leon Brittan's campaign is gathering steam

JOHN Major, in an attempt to boost Britain's influence in Brussels, has sent messages to ten fellow Prime Ministers in the European Union asking them to back Sir Leon Brittan, the senior British commissioner, as the next President of the European Commission.

The only leader who did not receive Mr Major's letter was Ruud Lubbers, the Dutch Prime Minister, who is the leading candidate to succeed Jacques Delors when the Frenchman steps down after a decade as head of the Commission at the end of this year.

As Sir Leon's campaign has moved into high gear and the race enters its final lap, he and Mr Lubbers appear to be the only real runners. The decision is made by the EU's 12 leaders and may not be announced formally until their next regular summit, in Corfu in June, but secret lobbying will determine the outcome within the next three months.

Between and now and the end of April, Sir Leon will have dropped into all of the EU capitals for a chat with each Prime Minister: this week he stops in Dublin to see Albert Reynolds. Proof copies of Sir Leon's forthcoming book, *The Europe We Need*, have been flopping through the letterboxes of the Continent's great and good.

Although Sir Leon has thrown his hat in the ring at Mr Major's request, he has few firm pledges to count on, and the smart money remains on Mr Lubbers. Sir Leon's campaign, which was at first thought to be quixotic, is also an each-way bet. If he loses, being taken seriously as a presidential candidate will help ensure that he becomes the most powerful player in the Commission after Mr Lubbers. "Leon is going for it quite simply because John Major asked him to, and Leon is a great believer in willpower, even if the odds look discouraging," one source said.

It was the culmination of the world trade negotiations just before Christmas that boosted Sir Leon's chances and media exposure. Sir Leon, the Commission's trade negotiator, spent several high-profile days at the eye of the storm personifying the EU's joint trade policy, almost the only form of European integration that scored any success last year. During the celebration over the last-minute deal, French officials traditionally hostile to Sir Leon's free-market views began to wonder out loud if they had not found a candidate they might prefer to Mr Lubbers.

In the discreet lobbying to clinch a large enough total of votes to secure victory, France is the vote to capture. Mr Lubbers may be the longest-serving Dutch Prime Minister this century, but he upset President Mitterrand in 1991 by cutting the final deal on the Maastricht treaty with Mr Major and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, without letting the French know what he was up to.

Courting the French vote is complicated by the uneasy power-sharing between the Socialist M Mitterrand and Edouard Balladur, the Gaullist Prime Minister. Sir Leon's relations with M Balladur are good, since the two men were in almost constant contact during the closing weeks of the trade talks. Contacts with the presidential palace have been opened. Sir Leon has been hinting to his Parisian friends that France's commissioner might land the powerful external affairs portfolio in Brussels if they back him for the top job.

M Delors' appointment in 1984 was a deal between President Mitterrand and Herr Kohl. One of Sir Leon's officials visits top people in Bonn this week. Last May, Sir Leon delivered a speech before Herr Kohl in Bonn which set out his stall as the candidate backing a single currency for Europe but opposed to "perfectionist demands" for European integration. The speech adroitly implied that Sir Leon's European ideals — and Mr Major's wish to be at the heart of Europe — were inspired by the Konrad Adenauer, the father of German Christian Democracy.



Edvard Munch's *The Scream*, stolen in a weekend Oslo raid

Thieves face grief in selling off Munch

BY SARAH JANE CHECKLAND AND TONY SAMSTAG

IF *The Scream* was stolen by the art world's legendary "Mr Big" — a Dr No figure who captures world masterpieces for his private delectation — he may be of a lonely and tortured disposition.

The painting by Edvard Munch, stolen on Saturday morning from Oslo's National Gallery, is from the gloomy Norwegian artist's *Frieze of Life* series. Famous around the globe through posters, advertisements and even an Andy Warhol print, few people would choose to live with its anguished content.

According to Munch, his series showed "the suffering and joys of the individual as seen from close hand". *The Scream* was definitely inclined towards the former.

With a third of Norway's police force in and around Lillehammer, about 100 miles north of the capital, for the Winter Olympics, two men entered the gallery through a window and made off with *The Scream*. The theft, which was filmed on security cameras, took less than a minute.

The painting is the jewel in the crown of a large collection of works bequeathed by the artist to the city of Oslo on his death in 1944. Art experts doubt that there is a Mr Big who steals for himself. Whether opportunistic or professional, art thefts tend to be carried out purely for financial gain. The painting is so well known that it is virtually unsaleable. The consensus in the art world is that its theft could be followed by a ransom demand, or — coinciding as it did with the opening of the Winter Games — some form of political demand.

The painting had been moved from the first to the ground floor for a special Olympic exhibition. There were no bars or screens on the window broken by the thieves: Knut Berg, the director of the National Gallery, told a television interviewer it had been assumed that intruders would not dare break the window for fear of cutting themselves.

That the thieves selected just one picture, and were able to spirit it away from the museum in under a minute, suggests they are highly professional. But other scenarios are possible. For example, two paintings worth £100,000, stolen in 1991 from Lincoln's Inn, central London, turned up last year in a London street market where a Westminster Council worker bought them for £145.

Leading article, page 17
Winter Olympics, pages 23, 25



Silvio Berlusconi, left, in Milan with Umberto Bossi after they announced their electoral pact

Andreatta tells right to drop Fascist poll pact

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

ITALY will cease to be a credible European partner if the right-wing "Liberty Pole" alliance led by Silvio Berlusconi wins the March 27 general election, Beniamino Andreatta, the Foreign Minister, said yesterday.

Signor Andreatta urged Signor Berlusconi, the flamboyant media mogul and leader of the Forza Italia grouping, not to adopt "the role of the Italian Zhirinovsky". He urged the tycoon to renounce the electoral pact he has forged with the National Alliance grouping, the main component of which is the neo-Fascist Italian Social Movement (MSI).

A central plank of the National Alliance programme would commit Italy to try to reclaim former Italian territory in Slovenia and Croatia, along the Istrian coast, lost as Fascism collapsed during the Second World War.

"The territorial claims advanced by the National Alliance pose extremely grave problems for the country as a trustworthy partner in foreign policy," Signor Andreatta told *La Repubblica* newspaper. "To put forward 'historic rights' to Istria could provoke in Europe the same anxiety as that produced by the German neo-Nazis when they speak of the Sudety Mountains or of German Silesia.

"I hope that the allies of [the neo-Fascist leader, Gianfranco] Fini sever any electoral connection. Otherwise one creates an important grouping that has some possibility of winning a majority, and therefore of leading the country, that has demented ideas."

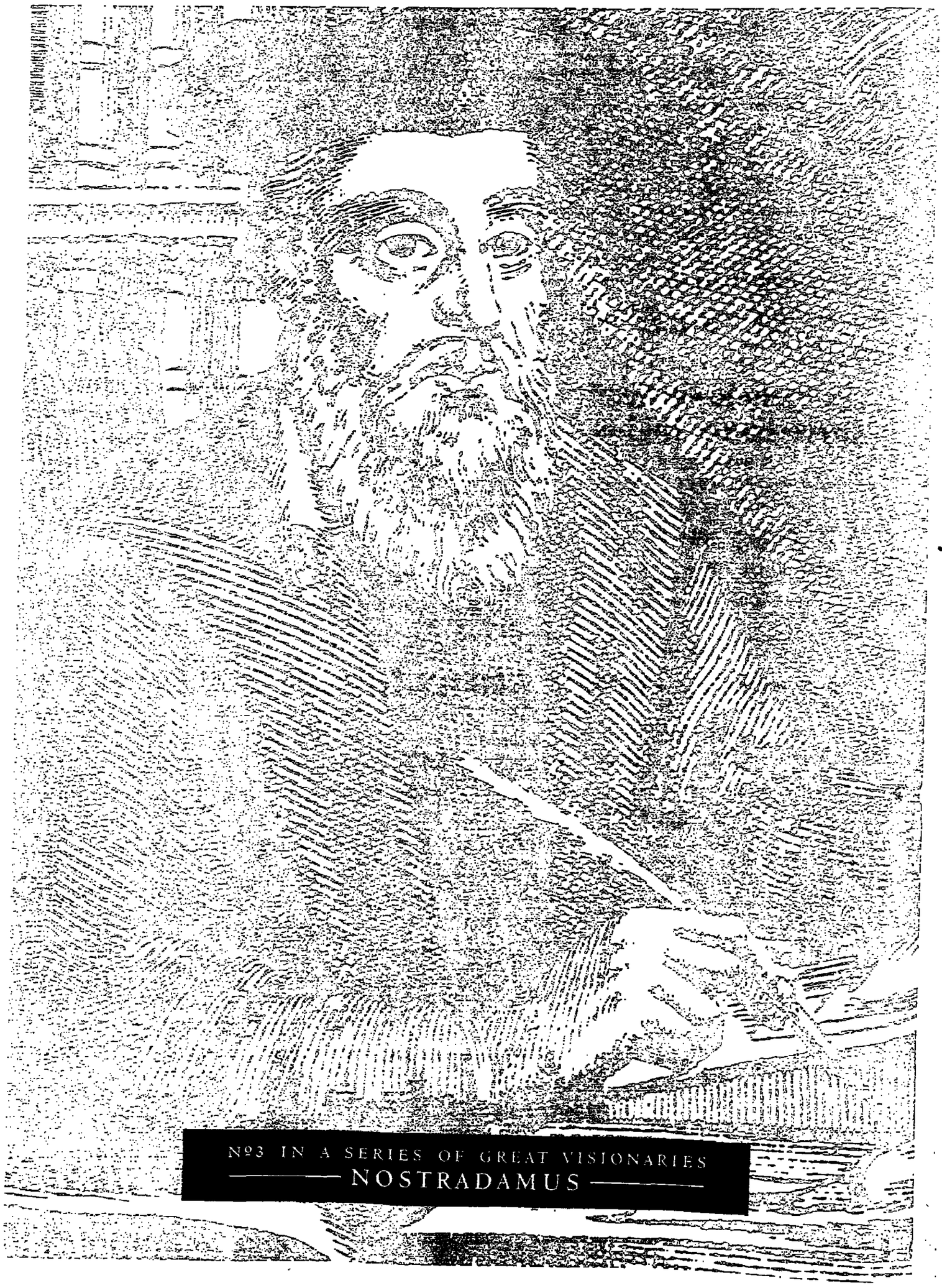
The Cambridge-educated Signor Andreatta, a university professor before he became Foreign Minister last year, spoke as a bewildering plethora of parties presented their electoral symbols at the Interior Ministry for official approval to appear on ballot sheets.

He said that he would be prepared to serve again as Foreign Minister in the next government if there were a victory for the moderate centre represented by the National Pact, which is headed by Mario Segni, the main inspiration for Italy's electoral reform referendum, and its ally, the Italian Popular Party (PPI), formerly the Christian Democrats.

Signor Andreatta's remarks were a boost for the moderates and a further blow to Signor Berlusconi, whose brother Paolo was arrested last Friday on charges of corruption. The brothers' business careers flourished in tandem in the 1960s and 1970s and although Paolo later claimed that his interests were separate from those of Silvio, few observers were overly convinced.

"We have never paid bribes," Silvio Berlusconi told supporters at the port of Ancona in his first campaign meeting on Saturday.

The Forza Italia leader is relying for votes on the anti-communist alliance he formed with the MSI and its allies in the south and centre, and with the devolutionist Northern League. Despite a joint press conference between him and Umberto Bossi on Friday, however, many League supporters are believed to be disillusioned with their leadership's decision to throw in their lot with the larger-than-life television mogul.



Buthelezi calls on Zulus to die in defence of beliefs

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

■ Afrikaner and Zulu leaders kept to their poll boycott as the deadline passed for parties to register. A slender hope remains that they may yet contest the April election

NINETEEN political parties have registered to contest South Africa's first all-race election in April. They do not include the white right wing, or the conservative ruling parties of KwaZulu and Bophuthatswana, and as yesterday's deadline for registration expired, South Africans started to face up to the prospect of open civil war.

It should first be pointed out that the deadline — like virtually all other deadlines in the four-year negotiations on a new constitution — still has some elasticity.

MPs can change the constitution, and it would be no great problem for them to extend the election deadline to allow the conservative parties to register.

But the parties presently give no sign of relaxing their determination to boycott the election. The talk on all sides is of further violence.

Ferdi Hartzenberg, the Leader of the far-right Conservative Party, made his point unambiguously last week in declaring that perhaps "a little bit of violence" would be necessary if the government, the African National Congress and the Communist Party tried to impose their will on the Afrikaner people. He thus joined General Constand Viljoen, the Leader of the Afrikaner Volksfront, who had earlier thought that "limited violence" might be needed.

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Chief Minister of KwaZulu and the Leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party, went further and called on his followers to lay down their lives for their beliefs, adding: "It is impossible for me to lie to you and reassure you that the IFP's opposition to fighting the election under the present constitution will not bring casualties and even death". Though Chief Buthelezi made it plain that he was talking about self-defence, and not urging his supporters to go out and kill, he declared that the ANC alliance was "out to destroy us", and told them to "face them head on".

Nelson Mandela, the ANC president, has given a warning that limited violence will be met by an unlimited response. This led to much scoffing by the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement, which seems to think that such forces as are at the command of Eugene Terre'Blanche, their Leader, would be able to deal with any black opposition much as Andries Pretorius and his 500 or so Voortrekkers dispatched 3,000 Zulus at the battle of Blood River in 1838. But the reality is that the Boers at Blood River had muskets and horses, and the Zulus only assegais. In later wars, as South African troops discovered in 1988 at Cuito Cuanavale in Angola, a well-equipped black army can at least hold its own.

The government has drawn up secret plans to counter any attempt by the white right to disrupt the election and to isolate any units within the armed forces that might support it. President de Klerk said in Bloemfontein on Saturday he was confident of the loyalty of the armed forces.

A historical parallel suggests itself. In 1940, Afrikaner extremists formed a pro-Hitler organisation called the Ossewabrandwag and blew up railway lines to disrupt the war effort. But there was no question about the loyalty of the security forces. The Ossewabrandwag members were arrested and when Jan Smuts, the Prime Minister, called for volunteers to join the army at least one in three Afrikaners of military age joined up.

Mr de Klerk is to meet King Goodwill Zwelithini of the Zulus today; the ANC and the Bophuthatswana government meet later. There seems little chance of agreement. But it could happen.



President de Klerk trying to silence African National Congress demonstrators as he addressed a Nationalist Party rally near Bloemfontein

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Crompton: law and order takes time

British officers to train PLO police

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

HALF a century after Britain disbanded the Palestine Police in the closing days of colonial rule, British officers are returning to the Holy Land to help establish a modern Palestinian force.

Yesterday Dan Crompton, Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire, was expected in Jerusalem with Chief Superintendent John Tunney to begin training some of the 15,000 Palestinian policemen to be deployed in the occupied territories later this year.

The Chief Constable admitted that there were problems of law and order in Nottingham, but nothing like the daily violence in the occupied territories, where yesterday, for instance, one Israeli was shot dead and two others were injured when their vehicle was attacked by militant Islamic gunmen near the West Bank town of Ramallah.

"Even if there were peace there tomorrow, it would take time to establish order," Mr Crompton said before his arrival last night. "You cannot move from a scenario of lawlessness to a scenario of peace overnight. I am not starry-eyed about this. It is not going to be easy."

The new version of the Palestine Police is likely to inherit some strong British characteristics. For instance, the first recruits trained in neighbouring Jordan marched to the sound of bagpipes and drums at their passing-out parade last year. The Palestine Liberation Organisation has also expressed an interest in buying Land-Rovers for its force, to distinguish their vehicles from American-made Israeli military Jeeps.

The issue of the Palestinian police is expected to come up for negotiation this week at Taba, where Palestinian and Israeli teams resume their talks.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

UN soldier shot dead in Somali ambush

Mogadishu: Violence flared in Somalia as gunmen ambushed a UN convoy in Mogadishu, killing an Egyptian soldier. About 60 people were reported killed and more than 5,000 driven out of Kismayu, the southern port city, in battles between rival clans.

A UN spokesman said the soldier died and another was wounded on a road guarded by Pakistani troops. Other gunmen kidnapped two Italian aid workers in central Somalia. The Somali Salvation Alliance, a group of 12 factions aligned to Ali Mahdi Muhammad, blamed the Kismayu clashes on General Muhammad Farrah Aidid. In Nairobi, his spokesman denied the charge and condemned the violence. *(Reuter)*

Tribal toll

Bujumbura: Between 25,000 and 50,000 people were massacred in the tribal bloodbath which followed a coup bid in Burundi last October by soldiers of the Tutsi-led army against the country's first Hutu President, an international enquiry found. *(AFP)*

55 stand trial

Paris: Algeria, fighting Muslim fundamentalist unrest, has put 55 people on trial in Oran accused of setting up an armed group, smuggling weapons and helping Algerians return home after undergoing guerrilla training in Afghanistan. *(Reuter)*

Boat capsizes

Bangkok: About 200 Burmese, including women and children, who had been working illegally in Thailand, were feared dead after a boat taking them home capsized off Thailand. Police and rescue workers said they had recovered 38 bodies so far. *(Reuter)*

Tehran switch

Nicosia: Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's supreme spiritual leader, has appointed Ali Larijani, the Minister of Islamic Culture, to head state-owned television and radio in place of Muhammad Hashemi, the brother of President Rafsanjani. *(Reuter)*

Nuclear target

Alma Ata: President Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan is to seek at least $1 billion (£714 million) compensation for nuclear disarmament when he meets President Clinton in Washington to develop trade and diplomatic links. *(Reuter)*

Flight relief

Dallas: American Airlines, the biggest US carrier, is to launch its first smoke-free transatlantic service on May 1 on the New York-London route. A recent survey showed that passengers preferred non-smoking flights. *(Reuter)*

Safe Valentine

Brussels: The British charity CSV Media is organising a Europe-wide campaign on the dangers of unprotected sex. Today, St Valentine's Day, Aids awareness activists will hand out 10,000 "Euro-condoms" and a ten-language guide to safe sex. *(Reuter)*

Children of the nightmare

Once again, a young voice is telling the story of barbarism raging at the heart of Europe, says Margot Norman



An uncanny detachment from the horrors of Bosnia: the young diarist Zlata Filipovic says "I have to be all right"

Yehuda Bacon was a boy of ten when the Germans occupied Czechoslovakia in 1939. By the time American soldiers rescued him from a camp in Germany he had come through Theresienstadt, Auschwitz and one of the death marches of the last winter of the war. Fifteen thousand Czechoslovakian Jewish children were sent to the camps; Yehuda was one of only 25 who survived. He had typhoid, he looked and felt barely human, but he had memorised every detail of what he had seen so that he could tell the world. "My hope was, if I tell what I saw, then people will change for the better. My greatest disappointment was that people didn't want to listen, and they didn't change."

Zlata Filipovic, of Sarajevo, was also ten when, in the autumn of 1991, she started to keep a diary. She called it Mimmy, and confided in it like a friend. Her record of the next two years describes the last days of an idyllic childhood, the coming of a terrifying and incomprehensible war, and her family's attempts to keep safe and sane.

As people hear about her diary they start calling her the Anne Frank of Sarajevo: "That frightens me, Mimmy. I don't want to suffer her fate." Zlata struggles to understand why people haven't changed, why the sight of crowds jostling to get on one of the convoys reminds her of films of the Jews fleeing Hitler, why ethnic cleansing keeps bringing refugees from what used to be ordinary, civilised towns, why all this seems to be happening again in the heart of Europe under the eyes of the blue berets and the world's television cameras.

Yehuda Bacon tells his story on ITV tomorrow night on Network First's *Children of the Holocaust*, in which he and three Jews from Hungary, Belgium and Poland recall their harrowing childhood experiences of war. Zlata Filipovic's diary is being published here by Viking, having first appeared in Serbo-Croat under the imprint of Unicef (The United Nations Children's Fund) and in Paris, where it was a bestseller.

Unprofor (the UN protection force) got Zlata and her parents out to Paris on December 23. Her mother, a chemist who had agonised over and missed an earlier chance to leave with her only child but without her husband, had to leave her elderly parents behind in their flat by the market: the shelling that goaded the world into threatening air-strikes delivered the *coup de grâce* to her shattered nerves.

What links Yehuda Bacon and Zlata Filipovic is not so much the detail of their experience as the fact that both cast themselves as observers and seem to have achieved a strengthening detachment because of it. Bacon, who later became famous for painting those scenes with a child's eye and a man's hand, consciously memorised every detail as a relatively kindly kapo in Auschwitz took him and some other frozen children down to the gas chambers to get warm. He asked about everything, saw the great bags of human hair, the box for gold fillings, heard how the guards told prisoners to leave their shoes neatly paired "so they could find them when they came out", knew he would one day draw all this. It didn't stop him developing the concentration camp mind-set — he laughed at the first funeral he saw afterwards, at such a fuss over a single death, and spent his first theatre visit wondering how long it would take to gas the audience.

> "The circle is closing, strangling us. I look at Mummy and Daddy. In two years they've aged ten"

Journalists who met Zlata in Sarajevo found her mature composure uncanny among so many shell-shocked children, but put it down to the fact that, like themselves, she had the chronicler's protective distance from events. "I have to be all right," she said simply, as her mother, shattered by the daily gauntlet-run across the bridge through sniper fire, and hours in the cellar balancing her phobia about mice against fear of the shelling, collapsed weeping.

Before the siege she had everything a loved and pampered European child might want: the flat in the old town was big and had great views of the hills (from which later the gunners had great views of the flat), her lawyer father could afford a country house, skiing trips, holidays in Italy, piano and language lessons. She watched MTV and raved about Madonna and Michael Jackson, read *Adrian Mole* and Enid Blyton.

By last September, after the Bosnia-Herzegovina parliament had put conditions on accepting the Geneva agreement, she was writing: "Once more the circle closes. The circle is closing, Mimmy, and it's strangling us ... I look at Mummy and Daddy. In two years they've aged ten. And me? I haven't aged but I've grown. I honestly don't know how ... I am a child of rice, peas and spaghetti."

In a couple of weeks they were back hiding in the cellar, counting 590 shells in one day from "our friends in the hills". By then she was convinced it would never end, "because some people don't want it to, some evil people who hate children and ordinary folk".

In Zlata's world, both Muslim and Christian feasts are celebrated as entirely secular family holidays, and she identifies nobody in her extensive cast of characters by their race or religion. Indeed, she makes a point of saying her family and friends are Muslims, Croats and Serbs, and until "politics" intervened she didn't know or care who was which. So who are these evil ones bringing death and starvation? They are "the kids", as the politicians are universally known. "The kids are really playing, which is why we kids are not playing, why we are living in fear, we are suffering, we are not enjoying the sun and flowers, we are not enjoying our childhood. *We are crying!*"

Children of the German Holocaust didn't know or care about race and religion either, until Hitler's "kids" made it a matter of life and death. Unlike those who insist on the uniquely evil nature of that experience, Yehuda Bacon didn't bridle when I asked him about Bosnia and Zlata. When he first tried to tell his tale, people whom the war had hardly touched would shut him up, saying "We suffered too, you know!" He still believes, in spite of everything, in telling the truth: "For me, the meaning of life is to say truthfully what we went through and *not* despair. When I came out of the camps I was lucky to meet wonderful human beings who had meaning in their lives. We have to underline the possibility of goodness in human beings, we know they can do terrible things and go on doing terrible things but it is that hope, the hope of goodness, that gives meaning to life."

● *Zlata's Diary, is published on February 25 by Viking, £9.99.*

Why we can tolerate a maverick school

Don't badger Summerhill

IF you wanted a report on the progress and well-being of a tankful of goldfish, you would probably not give the job to a badger. It would only come back full of complaints about the wet living conditions, the apparent aimlessness of the fish, their complete lack of interest in digging and their deplorable failure to grow any fur. You would end up with disgruntled badgers and miffed fish. It would be a waste of time.

This image lodged in my head while reading the report by Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools after three besuited inspectors spent three bewildering days among the chronically liberated, self-governing children of Summerhill progressive school in Suffolk. As a rule, I much admire HMIs: indeed, if governments had listened to them over the past 30 years we would not have needed the present education reforms. But when they go to Summerhill and find it faithful to the principles of its founder A.S. Neill, (no compulsory lessons, children voting equally with adults), the poor, dogged badgers are bewildered.



LIBBY PURVES

They struggle to be fair. They acknowledge the co-operation, the responsibility of older pupils; they admit that many of these vigorously foul-mouthed children have had problems at ordinary schools, and acknowledge the "notable enthusiasm and willingness of those pupils who attended lessons".

Even the condition of the swimming pool, which sent the last lot of inspectors into vapours, is OK this time: they mention the mixed nude bathing, a vital part of the garden-of-Eden ethos (what, no regulation crossover straps? Where do they sew their badges?) but choke back any view they may have.

But more prominently reported was the HMI's wail of anguish about the school's shortcomings. Inadequate history, geography, R.I., and information technology; "poor attendance rates" at lessons (well, the whole point is they don't have to go) and a shortage of GCSEs. To which the headmistress, A.S. Neill's daughter Zoe Readhead, replies: "They are judging us on standards we are not even trying to meet. They miss the point." Fish gotta swim, badgers gotta dig.

Mutual incomprehension mounts. "There is physical contact between staff and children which is of a caring and comforting kind and no improper behaviour was observed," say the inspectors, between their teeth. "There are, nevertheless, risks in this that children, particularly girls, could acquire behaviour which makes them vulnerable." At which point Mrs Readhead's tolerance starts to fray. "Vulnerable children are the ones nobody *ever* cuddles. Our children are not in awe of adults. They may hang on to Matthew the house-parent, but anyone who put a hand down their knickers would get an earful."

As a parent and former little girl, I can quite see the sense of that: the only one in our class to get lured into the biology cupboard with Mr Dodgy was the child of a chilly home whose craving for reassuring cuddles was legendary in the school. There are two ways to protect children from seduction: I suppose one way is to train them to scream when anybody touches them, but Summerhill's is another. And there are two ways to educate: within a compulsory structure and outside one. Each has its successes and failures.

And if democracy and parental choice mean anything at all, the badgers would do well to back off, watch for actual danger, and stop threatening. There are 66 children at Summerhill: half of them English, a third Japanese. Their parents are probably less bamboozled here than elsewhere. Dr John Rae, former head of Westminster, once told me that before parents were shown round, his tidying-up even extended to arranging the absence of certain particularly depressing-looking pupils; at least at Summerhill, what you see is what you get.

When the HMIs observe that "shared spaces are uncomfortable and dreary ... some rooms take on a squalid appearance", they should accept that these things are hidden from nobody. "If it's battered," said Mrs Readhead to me on Saturday morning in her own perfectly respectable house, "it's because that is the way the kids want it. We don't forever nag them. Some of them go through phases of keeping their bedrooms looking really nice."

THE school's confident innocence was abused two years ago when it let in a Channel 4 crew. The result focused heavily on one obnoxious American boy (long since gone), and on a brief experiment with abolishing rules and bedtimes (very educational: the children voted them back). Even that film did not put parents off. There are people out there who still want freewheeling, scruffy, swearing, self-regulating Summerhill. Just as there are people who want their infant children in grey serge and striped ties, learning to classify all adults as "Sir", "Miss", or "Matron". Nobody is being conned. Sixty-six maverick children of maverick parents will not bring down civilization. Back off, badgers.

THE TIMES

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Even in the age of the fax and electronic mail, hearts are trembling in anticipation of today's post

An epistle from Eros

"I have expected your letter all this day with the greatest impatience that was possible, and at last resolved to go out and meet the fellow; and when I got down to the stables, I found him come, had set up his horse, and was sweeping the stable in great order. I could not imagine him so very a beast as to think his horses were to be serv'd before me, and therefore was presently struck with an apprehension he had no letter for me: it went cold to my heart, as ice."

This was Dorothy Osborne writing to her future husband Sir William Temple in 1650. This morning, nearly 400 years later, many of us will have felt the same chill of anticipation at the sound of the postman's rattle at the letterbox.

Even in the age of faxes and phones there can hardly be anyone who has not searched through their bills for some sign of reassurance, or sat for painful hours over "just a quick note" crossing out, ripping up, leafing through the thesaurus and copying out the whole thing with their best fountain pen.

A love letter is the most potent way to declare oneself. "It is a declaration that does not disappear into the warm night air of a romantic evening, but can be wept or smiled over in years to come," says Nicolas Soames, the editor, with Robin Hamilton, of *Intimate Letters* (Marginalia Press, £14.99 hardback, £7.99 paperback).

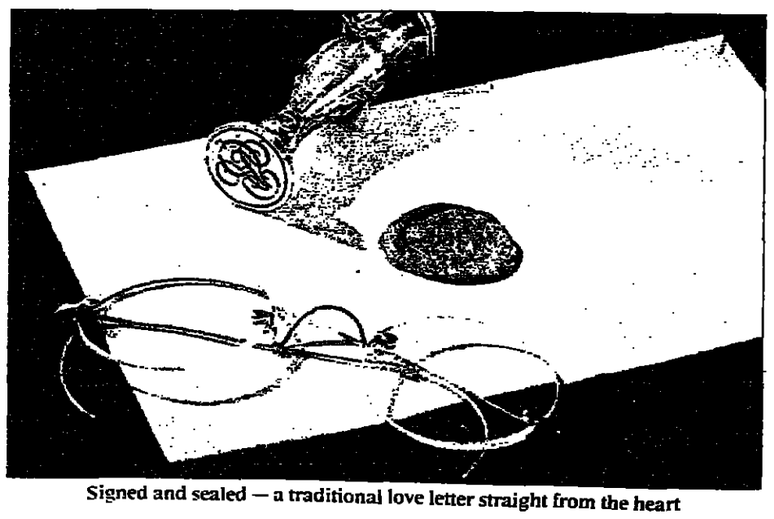
Mr Soames, a judo and classical music expert, pored over thousands of letters to make up a collection of 400, by 100 different authors, including Michelangelo to Vittoria Colonna, Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn, John Keats to Fanny Brawne, Jean-Paul Sartre to Simone de Beauvoir and Benjamin Britten to Peter Pears.

How did he make the selection? "I was looking for letters that reflect the human side of history, ones where you can really hear the person speaking," Mr Soames says.

He was most moved by the 12th-century correspondence of Abelard and Eloise. These French lovers were tragically separated by her angry relatives, she spent most of her life in a convent and he as a monk. Most of their lifelong correspondence deals with theological matters, but on occasion they become astonishingly frank. At one point Heloise reminisces about their former lovemaking and confesses, "Even during the celebration of the Mass, when our prayers should be pure, lewd visions of those pleasures take such a hold upon my unhappy soul that my thoughts are on their wantonness instead of on prayers."

Even the great heroes of history sound touchingly banal when they are in love. "I can neither eat nor sleep for thinking of you, my dearest love", Lord Nelson writes to Emma Hamilton. "I never touch even pudding."

The moral is that great lovers are not necessarily great letter writers and that great letter writers are happy to practise their skills on anyone. Lord Byron said it all when he tried to warn off Hariette Wilson. "I think you must be aware that a writer is in general very different from his productions, and always disappoints those who expect to find in him qualities more agreeable than those of others."



Signed and sealed — a traditional love letter straight from the heart

Wagner, only a week after swearing his undying love to Cosima Von Bulow, writes to his housekeeper Marie Volk "Heavens! How I am looking forward to relaxing with you again at last. (I hope the pink drawers are ready too??)."

Because letters keep two people at a safe distance, they are also the ideal medium for fantasies. Sarah Austin, a model Victorian wife and mother, fell passionately in love with a German aristocrat, Herman Puckler-Muskau, whose book she had translated. She bombarded him with letters full of sensual longing. "My bosom is not extremely round and prominent, but round and firm," she writes to a man whom she never met.

Mr Soames thinks the ubiquitous fax may help to revive our epistolary skills. Certainly it came in useful for the cricketer Graeme Fowler, who earlier this month faxed his wife in Australia with the message "I shall be filing for divorce."

Would-be Cyrano de Bergeracs can also exercise their skills on the electronic E-mail, which in the late 20th century must rank along with the Christmas party as the source of most office romances. Recently Mark Cooper and Teresa Burtick got engaged after a nine-month flirtation via their modems. After she accepted his proposal, Mr Cooper travelled from North Humberside to her home in Pennsylvania to ask her again, this time on his knees.

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

SAPONA

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Sapona, supplier of cleaning products for electronic office equipment, is recalling 250ml size cans of aerosol foam cleaner which in certain circumstances may leak or burst.

The foam cleaner is supplied in a distinctive orange and black can.

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For detailed advice and to organise collection customers are advised to contact their supplier, or the Sapona Helpline on (0384) 426044.

THIS RECALL DOES NOT AFFECT ANY OTHER SAPONA PRODUCTS.


CHANEL: chic and smart


CHANEL: sassy


LANG: punk

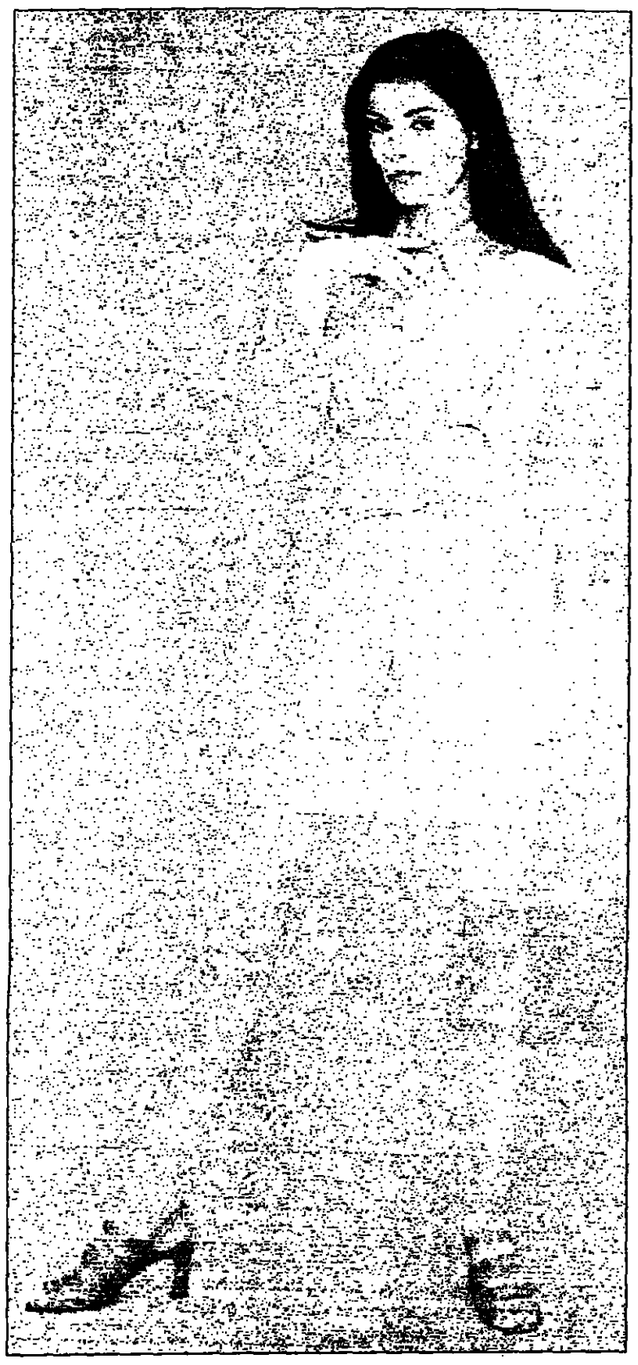

GHOST: pale and fluid

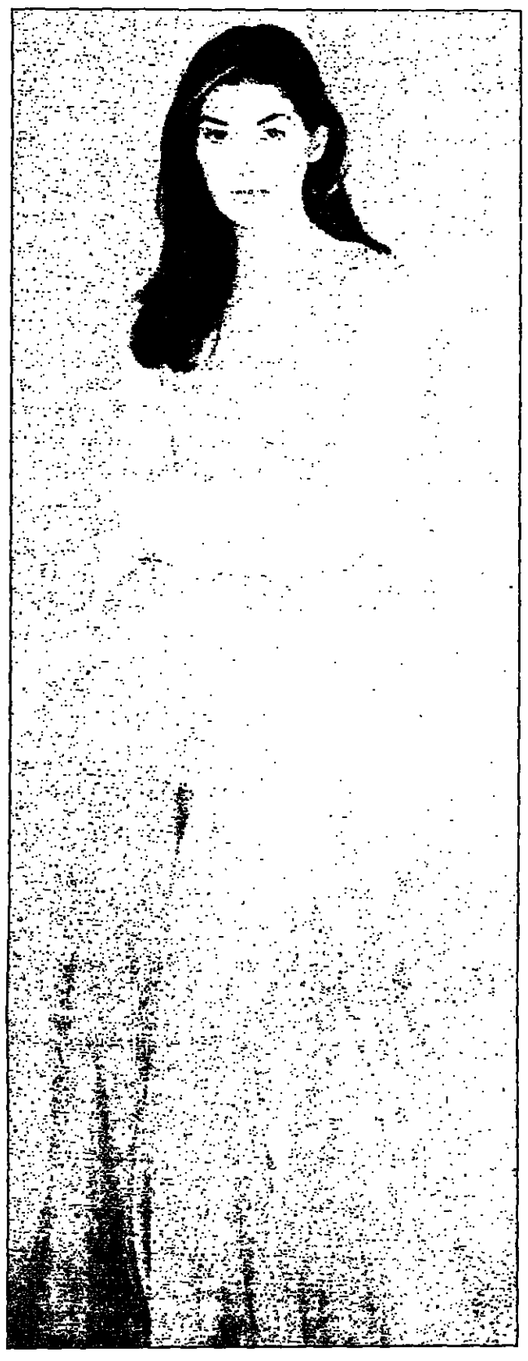
The world's leading designers have set the tone for the summer of 1994 with a colour that is much more than simply shocking. What to buy, and where to buy it, to put you in the pink

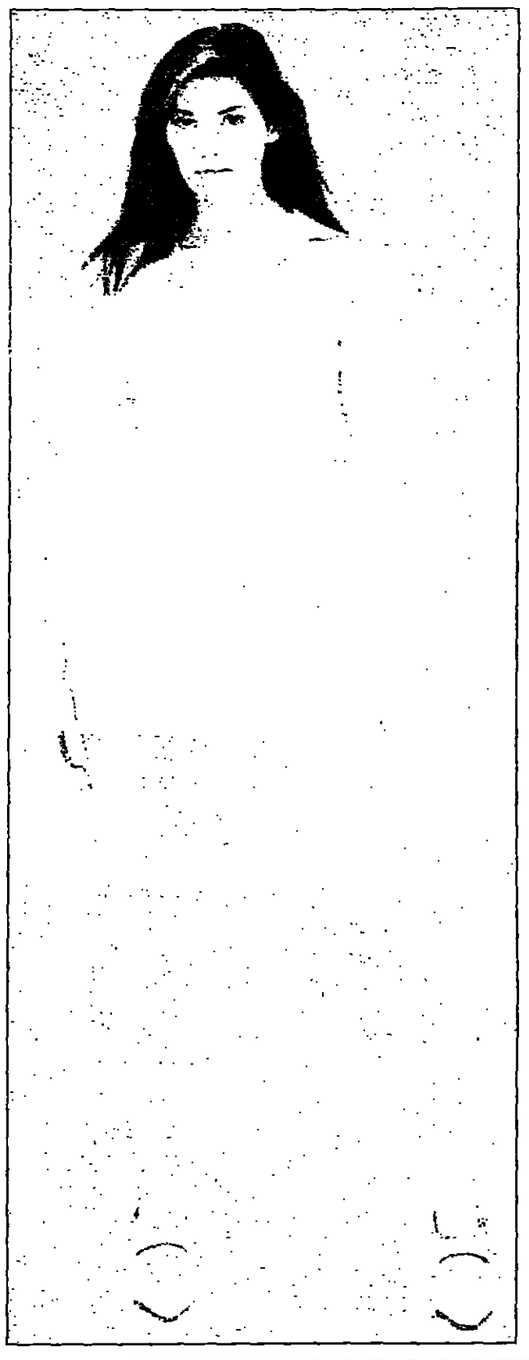

VERSACE: bright nights


YAMAMOTO: bold


WESTWOOD: pretty







IN SEARCH OF PINK

■ Pink raw silk t-shirt, £9.99; pink paisley print, bias-cut skirt, £24.99; pink mini kilt, £14.99, from Top Shop, selected branches nationwide (071 291 2351).

■ Bright pink wool jacket, £297.50; bright pink palazzo pants, £212.50, from Paul Costelloe, Fenwicks, Bond Street, London W1 (071 636 6636).

■ Pastel pink micro-mini skirt, £65, from Whistles, 12-14 St Christopher's Place, London W1 (071 935 7309).

■ Pale pink fitted jumper, £90; pink long dress with spaghetti straps, £185, from Joseph, 77 Fulham Road, London SW3 (071 823 9500).

■ Bright pink frame bag, £29.95, from Fenwicks, New Bond Street, London W1 (071 431 2756).

■ Pale pink blazer, £295; pink collarless jacket, £325, from Aquascutum, 100 Regent Street, London W1 (071 734 6090).

■ "Wild Rose" lipstick, £11.50, from Estée Lauder, department stores nationwide.

■ Pink floral Ottoman jacket, £239, from Jaeger, selected branches nationwide (071 494 2060).

■ Pink satin underwired bra, £8.99; matching briefs, £3.99, from Dorothy Perkins, selected branches nationwide (071 291 2604).

■ Pink vegora fluffy beret, (various shades), £9.95, from Kangol, major departments, (071 487 4888).

■ Pastel pink lambswool twinset, £150, from Burberrys, 18-22 Haymarket, London SW1 (071 930 3343).

■ Pink mohair jumper, £19.99, from Miss Selfridge, branches nationwide.

■ Pale pink babydoll dress, £468, from David Fielden (071 351 0002).

■ Pink lace-up shoes with love heart heel and motif, £39.99, from Shellys, Oxford Circus, London W1 (mail order 081 450 0066).

■ Bright pink pleated vest, £95, Issey Miyake, 270 Brompton Road, London SW3 (071 581 3760).

■ Pink cotton shirts, from £32.50, Thomas Pink, 85 Jermyn Street, London W1 and branches (071 498 2202).

■ Pink cotton pyjamas, from £49, Derek Rose, all major department stores (071 434 3482).

■ Fuchsia pink nail varnish, £2.25, Barry M (mail order 081 349 2992).

Photographs by IAIN R. WEBB
Make-up: Virginia Young
Hair: James Dodds

The rush to blush

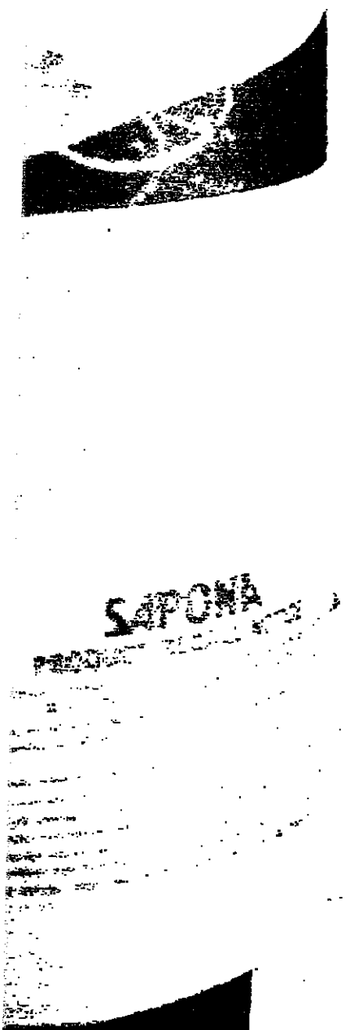


Above right: top, £102; skirt, £95, Bella Freud, Liberty, Regent St, London W1; Pellicano, South Molton St, London W1. Nylon rose sheer tights, £3.50, Pretty Polly. Shoes, £250, Manolo Blahnik, 49-51 Old Church St, London

Above left: suit, £795, Hardy Amies, 14 Savile Row, London (tel: 071 734 2436). Shoes, £169, Gina, 189 Sloane St, London SW1.

Above centre: sweater, £278; skirt, £450, Amanda Wakeley, 80 Fulham Rd, London SW3.

Left: tunic, £249; trousers, £249, Roland Klein, 7-9 Tryon St, London SW3; Harrods, Knightsbridge.





Fashion

IAIN R. WEBB

In the final reel of the 1986 film *Pretty In Pink*, actress Molly Ringwald appeared in a dress which was supposed to be a fabulous, entrance-making, breathtaking finale number, the icing on the cake — the heroine looking "pretty in pink". Except she didn't. The dress was a mess. It was a shapeless bag in a sickly shade.

If only Ms Ringwald had had her pick from this season's international collections she might have had a smile on her face as the titles rolled instead of a sulky pout.

For summer 1994, designers have gone mad for pinky hues. Every catwalk was awash with the colour. From chic Chanel to the more thought-provoking avant-garde Yohji Yamamoto. Even Helmut Lang used the pretty pale tint in his aggressive, tough-looking collection, printing white T-shirts with a leopard-skin print. These were topped with sheer, slashed T-shirts in punky pink.

What is refreshing is that there is no single tone to limit your options. In previous seasons one particular hue may have dominated; a sweet baby pink or a fierce fuchsia may have been all that was on offer. Wear it or be damned. This summer designers may have decided that pink is the hot colour, but the diversity of tone and intensity provides myriad chances to get it just right, just the way you want it.

Even on the same catwalk, the models blushed in the palest barely-there baby pastel, to the most intense looking almost-mauve shade. At Chanel, Karl Lagerfeld sent out the entire spectrum on to the stage. He coloured an itsy-bitsy day suit powder pink, a gently tailored trouser suit a slightly darker tone, and a two-piece swimsuit was in a screamingly bright shade. There is always the fear that wearing pink is not for anyone over the age of consent, but the look need not always seem little girly. Pink can be powerful, too.

Another hot favourite this season is a searing flourescent pink, often cut into sharp A-line miniskirts, like those at Whistles, or a sliver of silk jersey wrapped around the hips, barely a skirt at all, by Yamamoto. This is an easy look to emulate, costing little. With a metre of jersey it is possible to make a drape for your own hips, and those of a friend too.

Pink is always a favourite with accessory designers. This season Philip Treacey, the award winning milliner who scored a hat trick at this year's British Fashion Awards, carrying off the title of Accessory Designer of the Year for the third year in a row, offers a hat which is more like a whirlwind of screeching pink feathers than a simple chapeau.

Pale pink suede loafers by Gucci (more a luxury than a necessity) are still coveted by the style cognoscenti, while their patent salmon-pink slip-ons with white piped trim are already setting pulses racing.

Perhaps the easiest way to wear the shade this season is a sweater in fluffy angora, or mohair. These are available at every price range. From Katharine Hamnett to Miss Selfridge. Corinne Cobson to Top Shop. The simple twinset can always be found in the candybox colour.

For the more daring, lingerie takes a leap into the night, mimicking the pretty party dresses of Gianni Versace, all lace and frothy silk. Tiny slips, trimmed with lace, can be teamed with sheer chiffon trousers, or worn, more modestly, on top of a long, bias-cut evening skirt, or slinky jersey palazzo pants. Invest in something special from Bradleys, La Perla or Janet Reger, or search second-hand stores for war-time utility underwear. Bias-cut shoestring-strap slips are invariably manufactured in the palest peachy pink, slipper satin, or silk. Authentic, of the moment, and certainly far, far prettier than the dress foisted upon poor Ms Ringwald.



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*Private bathrooms are not available at the Regent Palace Hotel.

Matthew Parris



■ The media are intent on composing a bloodcurdling fable of political decline and fall — and if the facts don't fit . . .

Golly. Well, what more can you say? Love-children, nude models, double beds in France, stockings, death . . . can ever a Valentine's Day morning have been so defamed by mocking echoes of the thing it was meant to celebrate?

The weeks past have become like a bad dream. Symbols and images — innocent or playful and snatched from ordinary experience — are whirled around, distorted, thrust before us in a grotesque parody of love, honour and public duty. I keep trying to wake up.

At times like these, keeping a grip on reality becomes a full-time job. It is as though a tide were sweeping everyone away. You dig your toes into the shingle, but the water's rising, the current is strong and even people you respect are starting to drift. The will to sanity weakens. Every urge is to let go and float.

Where is the current taking us? There *is* a destination, if we float. Editors and newshounds do not "know" it, of course: the media are a miscellany and incapable of conspiracy, and there is no conscious agreement to impel the nation to an arranged place. Something more elusive powers them. A folk dream, a remembered fable, is their template, their unconscious blueprint. It is the image of the fall of Babylon, the collapse of Imperial Rome, the last days of Louis XVI, *le déluge*, the Flood. You will understand me if you remember that Dali painting of great elephants on stilt-like legs carrying thrones, cities, emperors and palaces, stumbling blindly across a landscape in which, at their feet, a bearded John the Baptist holds out a cross to bring them down.

The plot to which the media are working is the story of pride coming before a fall, of hubris and Nemesis. They feel (and they believe it strikes a chord with the nation) that power has gone to the Government's head; that the Tories have had things their way too long and become overweaning. Spurred by this sentiment, they have discerned, or constructed, a picture of Civil Service collusion, official insolence, and ministers and MPs careless of the old proprieties and doing just as they damn well please.

To this supposed *ancien régime* the day of judgment must come, they murmur, and cannot come too soon. But how soon? At this point the facts get in the way. Good plot, but where's the evidence? There isn't an election for some years, the Opposition is a waste of time, the economy's picking up, and nothing is going spectacularly wrong with the implemention of government policy. Whither, then, our fable?

Sex now enters, to save the storyline. If a picture can be built up of secret sin and internal rot; if tales of private waywardness and prodigality can be verified; if the camera can then move one step further to hint at perversion, despair and personal collapse, then the stage is set much as it was set for Babylon, for Nero or for Marie Antoinette. The insinuation is this: an administration is poised to collapse under the weight of its own iniquity.

Precisely how this collapse is actually to occur is not thought through and may not need to be. Resignations, sackings, suicides, failure of morale, *sauve qui peut* . . . dark hints are made about comparisons with the Profumo affair and the last months of the Macmillan administration. Perhaps they'll all just quit voluntarily. Perhaps they'll stagger despairingly on, losing by-elections until some Commons storm or other defeats them in a confidence motion?

> 'The weeks past have become a bad dream. Images are whirled around in a grotesque parody of love, honour and public duty'

No matter. At this stage in the plot there is only one imperative: to keep feeding the immediate drama with fresh "news". Almost anything will do, however slight, however tangentially related to other events. You just preface it with that ever-handy tool of a journalist up against his deadline and trying to stiffen his copy with a doubtful association between unrelated events: the phrase "in the wake of".

"In the wake of", of course, really only means "later in time" but carries with it the hint that the later event was caused by, or linked to, or is yet another example of, the former. The hint is too slight to require substantiation, but strong enough to convey the impression that this news is part of a developing story.

In the wake of Stephen Milligan's death last week the editor of a gossipy magazine rang to invite me to lunch. I declined. "Oh," he said, "but we would have discussed that appalling story about an affair between you and . . ." (and here he named an unmarried Tory MP).

I have never had a liaison of any sort with this or any other MP. One can do better. But can't you just see the story?

"*In the wake of an MP's macabre death last week, and weekend allegations about another Tory's affair with a model, gay former Tory MP Matthew Parris yesterday denied stories . . .*"

This tide may be unstoppable.

The reasons given for closing leading London hospitals are classic cases of official lunacy

Mad elephants can ruin your health

William Rees-Mogg

The weekend before last all the intensive-care beds in St Bartholomew's Hospital were occupied. The accident and emergency department telephoned round London to find such a bed for an emergency case. The only one they could find was at Guy's Hospital. Both Barts and Guy's are to close as hospitals on their present sites under the plans of the Department of Health. Of course, a single case — however symbolic — does not prove anything, but it questions the argument for the closures, which is, put simply, that London has too many hospital beds.

On Thursday, Virginia Bottomley made her second statement on London hospitals in the Commons, announcing among other decisions the closure of the Guy's site. On December 15 she had made a similar announcement, put out under the strange heading, "Making London Better", of the intention to close St Bartholomew's Smithfield site, ending 870 years of medical history. Admittedly the policy on Barts seems to be wobbling. The "phased concentration of services at Whitechapel" of December 15 has become "the "future location of services across the three sites" of February 10.

The closure policy has been self-contradictory. The new Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, with its huge cost overruns, was built in the early 1990s when it had been policy for more than ten years to close a major London hospital. The new building at Guy's, which will now never be used for its intended purpose, cost £140 million. That will be thrown away. I do not attack Mrs Bottomley; several Secretaries of State, including Kenneth Clarke and William Waldegrave, have presided over this policy. But they are powerless mahouts; they sit before the howdah, while the elephant of the Department of Health tramples its chosen path.

Last Thursday the elephant made a mistake. Attached to the Secretary of State's statement was a page headed "Key Facts". They provide the department's justification for the policy. Let us examine these "key facts".

"*Hospitals. Overall, London is served by 43 major acute hospitals with over 250 beds each — far more than any other major city.*" Of course, London is much bigger than any other major city in Britain. Does London have more major acute hospitals proportionate to population than an American medical centre such as Boston?

"*Beds. Inner London has 3.7 acute hospital beds for every 1,000 people. The national average is 2.4 (1990-91). London's teaching hospitals average length of stay was 15 per cent above that for provincial teaching hospitals in 1991-92.*" All centres of medical excellence have more acute hospital beds than the national average, because they treat more serious cases from outside their immediate area. In any case the national average of 2.4 is well below the West European average, and is probably too low for proper health care. Length of stay depends partly on the seriousness of the condition and on support in the community. A 15 per cent variance could be more than accounted for by these factors alone.

"*Resources. The King's Fund report on London's health services stated that London has 15 per cent of the population, but receives 20 per cent of the NHS spending. The average cost per case (1991-92) in inner London teaching hospitals was 44 per cent higher than provincial teaching hospitals. There are twice as many consultants per head in London as elsewhere.*" Take the last point first. There are probably 20 times as many barristers per head in London as elsewhere. Must David Pannick be compelled to live in Milton Keynes? There are far more Egyptian mummies per head in London than elsewhere. Is the British Museum to be raided and a mummy given to every city with a population of more than 100,000? There are more operatic tenors in London than elsewhere. Must they go and sing in Shepton Mallet?

These are unexamined arguments. The fact that there are more consultants in London tells one nothing about whether there are too many or too few. Nor does the figure for the average cost per case mean anything unless one knows the breakdown of costs, including London property costs, and the proportion of complex and grave cases. The general figures are distorted by non-Londoners using London's facilities.

London is a metropolis, for medicine as for the arts, or politics, or law, or banking, or countless other activities. Such a metropolis will have a quite different pattern of resources and functions from non-metropolitan areas. The question is not whether such cities should be different, but in what ways, and to what degree. Simple London reductionism is nonsensical, though regional policy is not.

"*Patient Flows. For inner London's non-SHA (Special Health Authority) hospitals, approximately two-thirds only of their patients are inner London residents. For SHA hospitals, only one-third of patients are inner London residents.*" This contradicts the earlier "facts" which suggest London has more than its fair share of hospitals. It shows that people from outside London come to London for medical treatment; that is hardly a surprise as they have been doing so since at least the 12th century. Bart's first recorded patient was an Essex man, referred by Essex practitioners. All great medical centres attract difficult cases from far and wide. People come to London, but they also go to Houston, Texas, or Boston or the Mayo Clinic. People from hundreds of miles away go to Bath to be treated for rheumatic diseases. Why not?

Such centres always attract consultants, and create extra medical activity and research. The department's assumption, made clear in this fact sheet, is that medical activity ought to be spread evenly over the country. That never has been and never will be the case. Indeed modern high-tech medicine requires investment which can only be afforded in a small number of centres. Investment costs impose centralisation.

Of course London has its own problems, including the need for rationalisation of hospital specialisations. Because London general practice is difficult and expensive it is less well developed than in the rest of the country. The department is right to attend to that, though the Londoners' tradition of turning to the hospital rather than the GP is not in itself objectionable.

The Government has set up the internal market, and in this case could let the internal market decide. If Guy's and Barts, with their very strong brand names, can draw patients from all over the country, and can attract large charitable donations for new medical facilities, that justifies their survival. Let them compete as independent trusts to serve the medical needs of their patients; close them only if the patients do not come to them.

The department's policy is radically flawed, and in several ways. It threatens, as happened tragically in mental health, to close hospitals before the alternatives are in place. It throws away, as at Guy's and potentially at Barts, expensive ultra-modern facilities. It assumes that a metropolis must not act as a metropolis.

It is supported by an almost idiotic set of unexamined "key facts", based on egalitarian regional assumptions which have nothing to do with patient welfare. It has been driven for decades by professional bureaucratic lobbying. It neglects the whole question of excellence in medical education, or exceptional quality of care. It flies in the face of the current shortage of London hospital beds, and of the natural pattern of investment in high-technology medicine. We should spare the mahout, but we should shoot this crazy elephant.

Cut down in no man's land

Reality mocks our foreign-policy posturing, says

Peter Riddell



Britain is in danger of having a lowest common denominator foreign policy. Half-hearted measures are adopted to maintain international solidarity and to keep the Tory Party united. But the national interest is not advanced, allies are unimpressed and the party remains divided. Britain's anguished involvement in Bosnia, culminating in the Government's reluctant agreement to the Nato ultimatum on Sarajevo, is only the most extreme example.

For the past 30 years, British foreign policy has been based on a boxing metaphor: that this country should punch above its weight in the world. Douglas Hurd epitomises that approach: the unflappable Foreign Secretary internationally respected for his judgment. If he can no longer behave like Palmerston, he can perhaps be an Eden or a Lord Home. On this view, Britain is not just a middle-sized European country. It has global interests. Britain remains a nuclear power, has a permanent seat on the Security Council, and is a member of the Group of Seven. John Major still hobnobs with superpower leaders — he flies to Moscow later today and to Washington in two weeks' time. All this is comforting for both diplomats and the public. But reality is catching up with the pretence.

Britain's ability to deliver its punch, and its influence in Europe, have depended, crucially, on American support. But that has changed. The end of the Cold War produced a more detached attitude in Washington. That was apparent before the election of Bill Clinton. Baroness Thatcher recalls in her memoirs "the relative tilt of American foreign policy against Britain", and towards Germany, by the Bush Administration until the Gulf war.

The coolness, and at times indifference, of the Clinton Administration worries officials in London. The Tories' clumsy intervention in the 1992 campaign soured relations. But more important has been a switch of attention towards Asia and Germany, and also to domestic matters. Close contacts continue between London and Washington, but Britain's voice is no longer heeded so often. That was underlined two weeks ago when Gerry Adams was granted a visa to enter America: domestic political needs counted far more than British objections.

Yet just as the American relationship has become more fragile, Britain remains unsure about its European role. The much trumpeted negotiating triumph at Maastricht in December 1991 was justified in largely negative terms when the Bill implementing the treaty was pushed through the Commons. Mr Hurd can argue that British goals on the single market, enlargement, co-operation on foreign and home affairs and subsidiarity have been advanced. But Britain cannot be described as at the heart of Europe when it has opt-outs on monetary union and the social charter. To minimise Tory splits ahead of the Euro-elections, Mr Major has adopted a nationalist and anti-Brussels stance. This will not really satisfy the Euro-sceptics while infuriating the pro-Europeans and other EU countries. Britain's European policy will be dictated by the needs of Tory Party management until the next election, and risks being both incoherent and ineffective.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

Bosnia has highlighted this sense of drift. There is a strong case for the Government's analysis. The conflict is primarily a civil war that cannot be halted by other countries unless they commit ground troops on a scale which their voters will not support. Britain's interest lies in preventing the war from spreading, providing humanitarian aid, and assisting a peaceful settlement. Britain has been active in all three areas, as shown by the latest forceful efforts of Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose in Sarajevo.

This policy has not, however, been pursued consistently. The Government has been pushed into agreeing measures largely to prevent divisions with its allies, not because it believes they will work. Britain acquiesced in the recognition of Croatia, despite its own fears, to avoid an open split with Germany at a time when London was seeking Bonn's support over the Maastricht treaty. Germany would probably have gone ahead anyway, but the recognition of Croatia, and then Bosnia, was damaging. Britain has gone along with repeated threats of military action without, until now, showing any intention of implementing them. Admittedly, Europe has been disunited, and, with America regarding the conflict as primarily Serbian aggression against Bosnia, the chances of effective pressure have been low. But a credible warning 18 months ago might have had some deterrent effect.

Britain backed the latest Nato ultimatum primarily to avoid an open breach with America. Ministers were reassured by Mr Clinton's commitment at the Nato summit in Brussels a month ago about maintaining a sizeable American military presence in Europe, but feared that this could be questioned again in Congress if Nato failed to take a tough line now. The decision on air strikes had become a test case for Nato's willingness to act in the post-Cold War era. Moreover, British fears about retaliation were undermined by the shift of France, with even more forces in Bosnia, in favour of air strikes. So the Government has been left merely following America and France.

Diplomacy often involves such compromises for the sake of alliance unity, as when the Wilson government refrained from criticising America's policy on Vietnam. Maintaining a common front was justified then in view of the Soviet threat. Even now, the priority is still to keep the Americans in Europe. The Government is right on that. Mr Hurd has offered a reasonable defence of each step of policy, whether on Maastricht or Bosnia. But the overall effect is confusing. Britain is uncertain about America and wary about Europe, where its future lies. Instead of punching above its weight, Britain looks more like a nervous second on the edge of the ring.

Really beastly

IF THERE isn't a law against Beast-baiting, there soon will be. For the Beast of Bolsover, the hitherto forthright Dennis Skinner, is beginning to look in urgent need of being designated a protected species. Having been wound up (quite literally) by a fellow Labour backbencher last week, Skinner has now suffered a mauling in a more familiar quarter.

This spat took place at the BBC's Bush House, where Skinner had been invited to discuss trade union power for a forthcoming programme in the *What If?* series for Radio 4. The BBC's choice of opponent was nothing if not provocative — that hammer of the print unions, Eddy Shah. Suffice it to say, the pair did not get on.

At one point things got so heated in the tiny interview room that Shah stormed out. Only the interviewer's diplomacy persuaded him to return. But again the exchange degenerated into an extraordinary series of slurs and accusations, culminating in Shah claiming Skinner was being racist. Skinner ridicules the suggestion but uncharacteristically refuses to discuss the row. Shah, however, admits the interview was lively. "It developed into farce and we didn't manage to discuss the unions," he says. "The studio was the size of a closet and we were almost sitting on each other's laps."

The BBC, which kept its tape-recorders whirring as Shah and Skinner went at each other, is delighted. "Never have I come across such a strong interview," says Ian Bell, the producer. "We have been left with the hottest piece of digital tape around." Not surprisingly, the contenders left the studio by different routes. One by the stairs, the other by lift.

● *Despite yet another reverse, back to basics is not a complete disaster. The Back to Basics nightclub in Leeds, which pulls in hordes every Saturday night, has recently been nominated as club of the year in the international dance awards run by Kiss FM. the Disco Mix Club and the Dance Aid Trust. The club was founded in November 1992 in reaction to the "rave scene", says manager David Beer. "We wanted to get back to the core clubbing values of having a good time. I think we've had a lot more success than Mr Major — but then our basics are very different from his."*

DIARY

Once more . . .

THE English Shakespeare Company, it was announced last week, is to close not just as a touring company, but completely. However, there may be life for Michael Bogdanov and Co after the final curtain.



Tentative plans are afoot to involve the actors in a film about Shakespeare's life. Bogdanov, artistic director, has joined forces with D.F. Productions to work on a project provisionally titled *Dark Lady*. The screenplay will be based on years of work by the academic Colin Hey, and promises much ado about Shakespeare's personal life.

Luke Ritner, ESC's chairman, emphasises that much is dependent on raising sufficient funding. "But we're optimistic. If it comes off it will be ironic, as it will be a case of life after death for the ESC."

Hey, a sprightly octogenarian, says of the film: "It may be low budget but it will certainly be impressive. Shakespeare had a rampant love-life. I know all about his early escapades up in Stratford with the girls."

● *Ever one to confront a problem head-on, Bryan Gould kicks off the first Hair Growers' Race at London's Ritz Hotel today. The year-long competition is sponsored by Natural Hair Products, which makes the equipment that suspends Gould from his ankles for three minutes a day. Gould already claims a 50 per cent reduction in the size of his infamous bald patch. But surely moving to New Zealand counts as cheating.*

Et tu, Quintin?

IF THE teaching of classics is withering elsewhere, it is in splendid heart at Eton. Saturday saw the reopening of Montague James Schools as the home of the classics department, after a lavish refurbishment.

On hand to open the building was Lord Hailsham, who confessed to a touch of nerves. "I don't really know a great deal about the workings of classics at Eton any more. My own classics are as rusty as an old sword in a scabbard." But he flattered to deceive — addressing the assembled classical dignitaries in fluent Latin for some minutes.

But did it fall on deaf ears? Not a bit — replying for Eton was Alastair Chirnside, captain of the school, who held forth in flawless Latin for fully five minutes. The performance impressed Hailsham, who recalled an early St Andrew's Day effort at classical graffiti on the lavatory wall. "*Floreat gens togata.*" Or keep your togas out of the rose bushes.

Winged

THE daredevil Duchess of Beaufort may have looped her last loop. After swooping over her Badminton home in a stunt plane last week to raise money for Bristol Age Care, the 64-year-old Duchess has decided she has tempted fate for the last time.

Her new resolve comes shortly after her return from gorilla trekking in Uganda. "I spent two weeks there and it was marvellous. However, one morning we spent three hours trekking up a slippery mountain to see the gorillas, and as I'm not terribly fit it nearly finished me off." More hair-raising than looping the loop? "Oh definitely. At least then I was sitting down."





Shulman's loss is Attallah's gain

Will you be my Valentine?

NAIM ATTALLAH, businessman and benefactor of the literary world, has given himself an admirable present for St Valentine's Day — a new PA. Attallah has lured the personable Henrietta Garnett away from her longstanding boss Alexandra Shulman, editor of *Vogue*. But relations between Asprey's, where Attallah is chief executive, and *Vogue* remain cordial — according to Attallah. "Henrietta will work as personal assistant to me, and Alexandra is being very sweet. She agreed Henrietta would have a different scope because we do everything here."

MESSAGE TO MOSCOW

Mr Major has a chance to win support on Bosnia

John Major arrives in Moscow on a difficult mission. Ostensibly his visit is a purely bilateral affair, reciprocating President Yeltsin's triumphant visit to London in 1992. But the prime minister must use the opportunity to act as an unofficial ambassador of the Western Alliance in order to explain, mollify and cajole. Moscow's opposition could yet wreck Nato's new-found resolution over Bosnia. Today's Security Council meeting will show whether the Russians are prepared to offer a political shield to the Bosnian Serb army which has already ordered a halt to the surrender of Serb heavy weapons. Andrei Kozyrev, the foreign minister, indicated at the weekend that Russia could accept air strikes "as a last resort." But does such accommodation from an isolated liberal have the sanction of President Yeltsin? His mood is uncertain: President Clinton, after getting an engaged signal for several days, could do little on the telephone to win over the Russian leader. It is now up to Mr Major to explain Western thinking face to face.

He would appear to be the worst emissary the Alliance could send. Dogged by scandal at home — the latest preposterous hullaballo must seem like an avenging fury to a prime minister desperately seeking to concentrate on policy initiatives — the government appears abroad to be irresolute over the Nato decision and swept along against its better judgement by veiled threats from Washington and the fear of isolation. If Mr Major cannot convince his backbenchers, how can he persuade the Russians?

Paradoxically, he may be able to turn this confusion to his advantage. He must perforce admit that his government, like Mr Yeltsin's, has serious doubts about air strikes. In doing so, he can convince him that Britain's backing for the Nato strategy is dictated not by a blind faith in the use of force but by the sorry realisation that the political balance has changed. There can be no hectoring in such discussions. The Russians resent being dictated to; their chagrin stems in part from the perception that the West has used its new-found friendship to enforce its will at the United Nations, lay down terms for economic aid, demand regular account of Russia's stumbling lunge towards democracy. A quiet British tone and frankness over the *Realpolitik* of alliance politics and UN credibility may be more convincing than bluster.

The conversation in Moscow will be held in wintery political weather. The fleeting sun of reform has been eclipsed; old thinking, old economics, old suspicions now cloud the prospects for change. The prime minister will want to know whether the lapse back into command economics and nationalist posturing is tactical or fundamental. Is the burgeoning market capitalism he will see in Nizhni Novgorod a harbinger of provincial enterprise or merely an isolated exception? Has change put down roots that British know-how can nurture, or is Russia merely muddling through the prelude to a new authoritarianism?

There are few insights Mr Major can bring to help the embattled Russian leader in his dealing with the truculent Duma. The West can neither predict nor guide the outcome in Russia. But he can point out to Mr Yeltsin the obvious connection in Western minds between Bosnia and turmoil within the former Soviet Union. He should warn him of growing Western concern at Russia's cat-and-mouse tactics in subverting unstable regimes in the "near abroad". The Western powers have not yet themselves decided what degree of Russian activity in the former Soviet republics can be tolerable, but they are increasingly being urged not to give Moscow carte blanche. The test case is the Baltics. The symbolism of Mr Hurd's visit to Riga should be plain: it is to warn against any attempt to reincorporate the three small nations. Mr Major is a patient and polite negotiator; but here is a need also for him to be blunt.

THE FIRST MILE

Israel and the PLO approach the end of the first stage

Five tense months have elapsed since the signing of the Declaration of Principles between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Distrust has magnified each obstacle. Even after the signing of last week's partial agreement in Cairo, the Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, cut short the applause. Striking the deflationary note to which observers have grown accustomed, he said that a month, at least, would be needed before the conclusion of a comprehensive protocol. Administrative and fiscal "modalities" still remain to be resolved.

The Cairo accords have, however, dealt with the most intractable items on the agenda. They cover the security issues concerning the control of border crossings, protection for Jewish settlements and, although a final decision has been left for inclusion in the protocol to come, the size of Jericho. The text reveals why the negotiators have crawled when they were expected to run. It makes explicit provision for such minutiae as which vehicle — Israeli or Palestinian — will lead which patrol in which sector. The Palestinian negotiators have finally come to grips with what Professor Edward Said, their *savant* of the diaspora, calls "the discipline of detail".

Israel's approach has seemed to many in the Palestinian team maddeningly rabbinical and legalistic. But the PLO has much to gain by this insistence on covering every practical eventuality. The handover of these territories to Palestinian administration will inevitably give rise to disputes, and it is in the interest of both sides to minimise in advance the scope for misunderstandings.

The PLO leader, Yassir Arafat, has, however, settled on what his critics will see as Israeli terms. The agreement accords to Israel absolute control over external security and gives it the right to refuse entry into Gaza and Jericho. The PLO will man border controls; but Israel will exercise an "invisible", but firm, supervisory role, based on modern technological methods. Jewish settlements will be under absolute Israeli control; and Israeli security forces appear to have the right of "hot pursuit" into Palestinian territory. Israel's concessions to the PLO have been rather more symbolic.

The agreement is a triumph for Mr Rabin, whose unyielding concern with security has enabled him to claw back much of the domestic support he lost when he signed the original Declaration. His closest advisers in the military reinforced his own cautious, even hawkish, instincts. In this, he is at odds with the Israeli Foreign Minister, Shimon Peres, who has been more sympathetic to the PLO's need to be able to claim that it has won, in Jericho and Gaza, some of the attributes of statehood. It was this concern for political appearances, as much as Israeli textual fastidiousness, which made for the slow pace of the negotiations.

But slow does not mean sure in all respects. Much ground has been lost, in Gaza and among Palestinians generally, to extremist opponents of peace. Mr Rabin, more staff officer than statesman, erred in failing to make even symbolic concessions — such as a token withdrawal of a small number of troops, or the release of a few Palestinian detainees — before the Cairo agreement. A strengthened Hamas is not in Israel's interests; nor is, at present, a weakened Mr Arafat who, for all his monumental flaws, represents secular Palestinian forces. Israel might have had its reasons for hastening slowly over this difficult first mile, but Mr Rabin must now quicken the caravan's pace.

THE LOST SCREAM

The theft of a famous painting is a loss for all mankind

The theft of Edvard Munch's masterpiece *The Scream* is a crime as embarrassing as it is mysterious. The ease with which a thief climbed in the window, took the uninsured painting, handed it to his accomplice and made off with no explanation beyond a taunt thanking the National Gallery for its poor security has already been broadcast around the world on a grainy security camera videotape. On the day that the world marvelled at the daring of the Norwegian ski-jumper flying through the Lillehammer sky with the Olympic torch ablaze, it was also marvelling at the daring of the art robbers and the naivety of Norwegian trust in the safety of its national treasures.

The mystery lies in the motives of the thieves. The painting, an archetypal representation of fear, angst, oppression and paranoia, has long been revered as the quintessential premonition of twentieth century man's mental anguish — even if executed by a morose nineteenth century artist on the northern rim of the European continent. It has had a deep influence on the development of Expressionism. It has been imitated again and again. It has even been used, along with the Mona Lisa, as the basis for advertisements: recognition indeed of its compelling message. Who could sell such a painting? Where could it be hidden? Who would dare receive such stolen property, unless it was an obsessive millionaire admirer of Munch, ready to risk all for a furtive midnight peep into his darkened cellar where the icon might be hidden? And even if that was its destiny, would not the painting, like Poe's tell-tale heart, scream out at every glimpse?

Paintings are unique, but so often are the best reproduced nowadays that they appear almost commonplace. Does Van Gogh's chair not hang on a thousand staircase walls? Does not the Laughing Cavalier twinkle from the pages of every book on Western art? Nevertheless, the sight of the original is always startling and often exciting. That is why crowds throng to exhibitions. That is why auctioneers have made paintings one of the most valuable commodities ever fashioned by man. That is why the loss of any fragment of our artistic heritage — by fire, flood or theft — is often mourned more than the loss of human life.

The Scream may soon surface again, cut out of its frame and abandoned, or tracked down like a kidnapped child. So far there are few clues or precedents for such a valuable theft. There may be a political motive, a perverse desire to attract attention to this or that cause at the start of the winter Olympics. There is plenty of suffering in the world to cause the primeval scream. But theft does nothing to relieve this century's suffering.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Bosnia: innocents or aggressors?

From Dr Salah Ezz

Sir, In the spring of last year, after the horrors in Srebrenica outraged the world, an agreement to demilitarise the town and its surroundings was implemented; the Bosnians defending the city reluctantly handed the few weapons they had to the UN, while the Serbs reneged. No international action was taken to force the Serbs to comply and their savage siege continues.

Now, after last Saturday's massacre in Sarajevo, Nato has decided that the Bosnian government should "place its heavy weapons in Sarajevo under UN control" (report, February 10). This not only means that the victims and their killers are being treated equally by the supposedly "civilised" members of Nato but, more important, that the legitimate Bosnian government is being asked to give up sovereignty in its capital and hand its weapons to an international body that has betrayed it on numerous occasions over the past two years and whose dominating powers, particularly the French and the British, have been pressuring the Bosnians to submit to aggression and surrender.

Your report (earlier editions) also describes General Sir Michael Rose's ceasefire agreement as helping to "pull off a coup". But a similar agreement was reached last summer on Mount Igman that led to the Serbs withdrawing a few units, only to replace them later.

For Europe to allow a state that has been and still is espousing democracy and pluralism to be devoured by two fascist regimes will mark the end of European civilisation and an irreversible return to the "basics" of medieval European barbarity.

Yours faithfully,
S. EZZ,
University of Oxford,
Department of Materials,
Parks Road, Oxford.
February 10.

From Mr George Tintor

Sir, You note that American and Russian "weaponry is responsible in large measure for [Afghanistan's] anarchy" (leading article, "Great game of death", February 9). The mistakes of the Afghan conflict, however, appear to have been forgotten by those in the West who clamour for the selective lifting of the Yugoslav arms embargo in favour of the Bosnian Muslims.

Lifting the arms embargo will do nothing to solve the three-sided political dispute in Bosnia and will only intensify and prolong the conflict. Were the Bosnian Muslims to receive weapons from their foreign supporters (in addition to the clandestine arms shipments they already receive) the Croats and Serbs would certainly turn to their foreign friends for more arms.

Experience shows that pouring arms into a civil war ensures its continuation. From Afghanistan to Angola, terrible wars have been sustained by the "good" intentions of foreign arms suppliers.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE TINTOR,
52-62 Bishopsgate, EC2.
February 9.

From Miss Nora Beloff

Sir, Mr D. W. Berry (letter, February 10) is right to ask, on the former Yugoslavia, "Are we being given a true picture of this terrible civil war?"

As he points out, one of your own correspondents acknowledges that it was the Bosnian Muslims who initiated most of the recent exchanges of gunfire around Sarajevo. But a fuller account of what is really going on is available in the final report of the Belgian general Francis Briquemont who, at the end of 1993, asked to be relieved of his Sarajevo command. *The Guardian* (February 7) quotes him as having said:

In Sarajevo the Bosnian army provokes the Serbs on a daily basis. Since the middle of December, the Bosnian army jumped another step by launching heavy infantry attacks from Sarajevo to the Serb-held suburbs of the city.

The Bosnian army attacks the Serbs from a safe area, the Serbs retaliate, mainly on the confrontation line, and the Bosnian presidency accuses Unprofor of not protecting them against Serb aggression and appeals for air strikes against the Serb gun positions.

Sincerely,
NORA BELOFF,
11 Belsize Road, NW6.
February 10.

Pegasus bridge

From Mr D. A. Kerven

Sir, I cannot agree with Mr L. David Brook (letter, February 7; other letters, February 11) that no markers, radar or other aids were used at the capture of Pegasus bridge in Normandy on June 6, 1944. I recall that my unit, No 1 platoon of the 22nd Independent Parachute Company, set up a Eureka transmitter, low-intensity lights and marker strips on the dropping and landing zone at Ranville church, about a mile from the bridge.

My diary records that we were transmitting a homing signal shortly afterwards.

Yours faithfully,
D. A. KERVEN,
Ground Floor Flat,
1 Hadleigh Road,
Frinton-on-Sea, Essex.

Superstores in town and country

From Mr Alfred Morris, MP for Manchester, Wythenshawe (Labour)

Sir, John Gummer, Environment Secretary, acknowledges the damaging effect of out-of-town shopping centres on the wellbeing of town centres (report, February 8). Yet by maintaining government support for the proposed out-of-town shopping centre at Dumplington, Greater Manchester, he declines to put precept into practice.

Covering some one million square feet, this development would do untold damage to Manchester's city centre. The minister has only to look at the huge Merry Hill development in Dudley to see the damage it has inflicted, both on the town centre and in terms of unemployment.

The planning permission for Dumplington, which was granted last year, is still subject to appeal and remains a lingering reminder of the misguided retail development policy of the 1980s. It is time the minister was as good as his word and withdrew his support for Dumplington.

Yours faithfully,
ALFRED MORRIS,
House of Commons.
February 11.

From Councillor Peter C. Gray

Sir, There is growing recognition that many urban areas cannot accommodate the projected unfettered use of the private car and that such uses as major shopping and offices need to be located where public transport is a real option and multi-purpose trips are viable.

Authorities are still besieged by prospective developers of out-of-centre shopping malls and superstores. The Secretary of State and his inspectors, despite their stated intention of resurrecting the smaller town centre supermarket or new convenience store formats, will have to adjudicate on many more out-of-town schemes in the months ahead.

Town centres can meet the needs of our communities. New air-conditioned malls with efficient floorspace and servicing can be successfully integrated into all but a few centres. With care and co-operation between the local planning authority, traders, landowners and investors, modern shopping centres can complement and blend in with historic towns to produce characterful, distinctive centres rather than bland malls.

This has been successfully achieved in Kingston upon Thames, where both a John Lewis department store and the million-square-feet Bentall Centre have been sensitively integrated within the existing fabric. In the Bentall Centre we have a new department store opening into a four-storey mall which could accommodate the nave of St Paul's Cathedral. Yet by building behind the historic façade of the former Bentall's store, a familiar landmark, the development does not overpower the town centre and achieves a sense of continuity.

Yours faithfully,
PETER C. GRAY (Chairman,
Development Committee),
Royal Borough of
Kingston upon Thames,
Members' Room, Guildhall,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

From the Managing Director of Moss Bros Group plc

Sir, As a retailer who operates in towns, cities and increasingly in regional shopping centres, I welcome John Gummer's "new strategy" for British shopping. But can he "deliver" town and city centres which serve and satisfy the whole community?

I was in Birmingham yesterday, where a local businessman explained that Stourbridge, a town hard hit by the Merry Hill development (where parking is free), had just decided to charge for its town centre parking.

Neglect of our great cities (Birmingham is just one example), the absence of clear direction and vision from government, and the cavalier and arrogant approach of so many councils have caused this blight.

Yours sincerely,
R. J. GEE,
Group Managing Director,
Moss Bros Group plc,
8 St John's Hill, SW11.
February 8.

From Mrs Angela M. Taylor

Sir, I shopped at various places in Halesworth (Suffolk) this morning in the crisp, car-free air, to the sound of footsteps and the murmur of voices, for superb fish, specialist cheeses, greengrocery from leeks to lemongrass, all served with charm and lively talk and all as yearned for in Margot Norman's article ("Bring back Arkwright's corner shop") of February 1. No car-park queues, no check-out queues.

What despair, on learning of a new supermarket being built outside the town! Mr Gummer's epoch-making U-turn has come too late.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. TAYLOR,
Highfields Cottage, The Street,
Thorpe Abbotts, Diss, Norfolk.
February 8.

Treasure trove law

From Mr Andrew Selkirk

Sir, I am sorry to see that our system of treasure trove is once again being maligned (letters, January 28, February 9). In fact it has been doing rather well recently. There have been a number of spectacular hoards, most notably those from Snettisham and Hoxne, which have been properly declared and fully excavated.

It is a triumph for the system, and archaeologists abroad rub their eyes in amazement at our good fortune to have a law that works so stunningly well.

In most other countries, hoards such as these would have vanished onto the black market immediately: one only has to look at the so-called Sevso silver hoard, returned by a jury in New York to the Marquess of Northampton (report, November 9, 1993). We do not even know what country this hoard comes from — let alone its context.

The reason why treasure trove works so well is because it is widely seen to be fair: its essence is the system of rewards worked out by the British Museum in the inter-war period and magnificently run by them ever since.

The new proposals in the Treasure Bill fail to recognise this, and take away all the rights and responsibilities of the landowner, while the explanatory memorandum implies that the rewards will no longer be at market value (the crux of the present system), but will be discretionary.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW SELKIRK,
(Editor), *Current Archaeology*,
9 Nassington Road, NW3.
February 9.

Parking restrictions

From Superintendent C. M. Leithead

Sir, Your transport correspondent states (report, February 10): "From July all traffic wardens in London will be employed by local authorities, rather than the police."

No traffic wardens will be employed by local authorities. They will employ parking attendants, who will deal with decriminalised parking, which will be complete by July, and special parking areas.

The Metropolitan Police will continue to employ traffic wardens to enforce the Red Route network and those streets which will still have yellow lines on them until the Red Route network is fully implemented in 1996.

Traffic wardens will also continue to enforce offences of "causing unnecessary obstruction", "parking within the limits of a pedestrian crossing" and "parking in a dangerous position". The last two offences are endorsable and all three are beyond the scope of local authority parking attendants.

It is the intention of the Metropolitan Police and their traffic warden service to ensure that the Red Route network is successful by bringing a level of enforcement which will induce compliance with the parking restrictions.

Yours sincerely,
C. M. LEITHEAD,
Metropolitan Police Service,
Headquarters Traffic,
Tintagel House,
Albert Embankment, SE1.
February 10.

Tax burden

From the Director of the Conservative Research Department

Sir, In his article, "Tax evasion on all sides" (January 26), Simon Jenkins failed to reflect accurately the content of the Conservative Research Department's *Politics Today* (January 1993) on the economy.

A year ago, in response to the question, "Despite all your promises, hasn't the tax burden risen under the Conservatives?", the answer reads:

In 1979, the Conservative Government inherited a substantial PSBR from Labour, even though the economy was at the peak of a cycle. As a result, the tax burden was increased in order to reduce the burden of excess borrowing which had built up. Since 1981, the tax burden has fallen.

The tax burden goes up when the economy grows unless existing tax rates are cut. This is because as real incomes rise more people pay tax, and more pay it at a higher rate. So the only way to bring the tax burden down in the long run is to control public spending and cut tax rates — which only the Conservative Party is committed to do.

This is quite different from Mr Jenkins's suggestion that our answer was solely that the burden had fallen "since 1981". This document was published before either of the 1993 Budgets. It set out clearly the fact that taxes rose under a Conservative Government during the 1980-81 recession, and in order to bring down unsustainable borrowing inherited from Labour. It is not a great leap forward from that to see that taxes are also having to rise now, after a world recession, in order to bring down borrowing.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW LANSLEY,
Director,
Conservative Research Department,
31 Smith Square, SW1.
January 28.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Hong Kong group needs guarantee

From Lord Bonham-Carter and others

Sir, On July 13, 1993, the House of Lords passed a resolution by 60 votes to 48 to give full British citizenship to members of the non-Chinese ethnic minorities in Hong Kong — about 3,000-5,000 people — who will be without a right of abode elsewhere after July 1, 1997 (report, July 16, 1993). Since the Government took no notice of this clear expression of opinion from all sides of the House, it has been necessary to introduce a private member's Bill to give it legislative effect.

In addition to the signatories of this letter, the Bill has the support of the present governor of Hong Kong, two previous governors, Lord MacLehose of Beoch and Lord Wilson of Tillyorn, the unanimous support of the Hong Kong Legislative Council and that of the select committee on foreign affairs in the last Parliament.

After 1997 members of this minority group will have to rely on British National (Overseas) status, which gives them little more than a travel document providing no right of abode outside Hong Kong. They will have no right to Chinese nationality and will, in the opinion of many eminent authorities — Justice and the International Commission of Jurists for example — be rendered effectively stateless. After two generations their children will lose even the right to British Nationality (Overseas) status.

This is a unique case because what is happening to Hong Kong is without precedent. Hong Kong is not being offered independence, its sovereignty is being transferred to another state of which this particular group, unlike the vast majority of the people of Hong Kong, will have no right to become citizens.

That the Government recognises a particular obligation to these people is made clear by its verbal assurances to take them in, should the worst come to the worst. But, unless the worst does come to the worst, there is no indication they wish to leave Hong Kong or come to this country. They want the ease of mind that will enable them to stay in Hong Kong and go on contributing to the territory, as so many of them and their families have done in the past.

All this small group of people asks is that we provide them with a clear legal status which could in the last resort also be their safety net. Is that not the least we can do? We hope the Government will not seek to oppose the principle underlying this Bill when it reaches the House of Commons.

Yours etc,
BONHAM-CARTER,
BRAMALL,
DUNN,
GLENARTHUR,
McINTOSH of HARINGEY,
House of Lords.
February 9.

Labour's intellectuals

From the Earl of Longford

Sir, Anthony Howard, in his arresting article of February 5 ("Labour's missing brains") [also letter, February 9], poses the question, "Where are all the socialist academics . . . ? The answer is surely obvious: on the Labour benches in the House of Lords.

We have five professors: Desai and Plant (mentioned by Anthony Howard), Morris of Castle Morris, Blackstone — now Master of Birkbeck College — and Peston. We have three other distinguished academics: Eatwell, Donoughue and Hollis of Heigham. Perhaps I should be allowed to add the names of two former Oxford dons, Harold Wilson and myself, not to mention Jay — Fellow of All Souls.

The list of first-class degrees begins with Healey and Mulley. I can think of Cabinets whose intellectual quality was inferior to one for which the above names would provide a nucleus.

I may be sharply reminded of names I have overlooked.

Yours sincerely,
FRANK LONGFORD,
House of Lords.
February 7.

Safety first

From Mr John L. Jones

Sir, Mrs Ba Miller asks (letter, February 10) why poinsettias need a warning about eating them. My cat used to eat pot plants when he was a kitten. He only stopped when he was old enough to read the instructions.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN L. JONES,
4 Pinewood Close,
Eastbourne, East Sussex.
February 10.

Driving upmarket

From Group Captain M. G. Peaker

Sir, I am very proud of my car, a Maestro. Born a British Leyland, it grew into a Rover and has now matured as a BMW.

Didn't it do well!

Yours sincerely,
M. G. PEAKER,
21 Altair Way,
Northwood, Middlesex.
February 7.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

February 12: The Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief, The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's), this morning received Lieutenant Colonel Nigel Alderman upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer, the 1st Battalion, and Lieutenant Colonel Simon Knapper upon assuming the appointment.

Michael Gale

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Michael Gale will be held at St Martin-in-the-Fields at 3.30pm, on Tuesday, March 1, 1994. Donations in lieu of flowers to: Bishop R.O. Hall Chinese Centre or Guys Hospital Trust.

Hunterian Society

The Hunterian Society held its Anniversary Dinner to mark the 266th Anniversary of the birth of John Hunter at the Savoy Hotel on Thursday, February 10, 1994. This occasion took place during the John Hunter bicentenary year. The President, Dr Derek W. Zutshi, received the principal guests, the Right Hon Lord Weatherill, DL, and Dr Kenneth C. Calman, MD, FRCS, (Glas Ed) FRSE. Others present included: The Presidents of the Royal College of Surgeons and the Royal College of General Practitioners, Sir Robert Kilpatrick (President of the General Medical Council), Mr P Ward (Master of the Society of Apothecaries of London) and Presidents of other kindred societies.

Roedean

Roedean School is pleased to announce: **Junior Scholarships:** Academic Scholarship: Sarah Woolley, Broadwater Manor, Worthing; Minor Academic Scholarship: Joanna Davies, Sibton Park, Lyminge; Minor Music Scholarship: Harriet Hughes, Roedean; Founders' Awards: Leonora Bowen, Finton House, London; Natasha Goldberg, Glendower London.

Sixth Form Scholarships

Academic Scholarships: Michelle Chan, Natasha Coates, Christine Luscombe, Elizabeth Moore-Bick, Elizabeth Oei, Hermione Piggott, Catherine Rothon; Minor Academic Scholarships: Alice Greenwell, Marisa Leaf; Sixth Form Awards: Heather Baister (Music), Elena Katsandreas (Music), Vivian Lee (Art/DT), Aisleen Lester (Art/DT), Elspeth Shopland, Joanna Wong.

Future Dates

Open Mornings will be held on Saturday, April 30 and June 11 when the new Roedean Theatre can be viewed. The Old Roedeanians' Association Summer Reunion will be held at Roedean on Sunday, May 1. Details available from the School (0273-603181).

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron of the Ranfurly Library Service, will attend a reception to mark the adoption of the name Book Aid International at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office at 6.45.

The Princess of Wales, as president, will open the new clinical wing to be named "The Variety Club Building" at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, at 10.30.

The Duke of Kent, as president, will attend a concert at Wellington College, Crowthorne, at 6.45.

The Prince of Liechtenstein celebrates his birthday today.

Birthdays today

The Right Rev Peter Ball, former Bishop of Gloucester, and his twin brother, the Right Rev Michael Ball, Bishop of Truro, 62; Mr John Butterfill, MP, 53; Sir John Clark, former chairman, The Plessey Company, 68; Professor Evelyn Ebsworth, vice-chancellor, Durham University, 61; Sir Arnold Elton, consultant surgeon, 74; Sir Jack Hibbert, former director, Central Statistical Office, 62; Sir Derrick Holden-Brown, former chairman, Allied-Lyons, 71; Miss K.M. Jenkins, former director of personnel, Royal Mail, 49; Mr Kevin Keegan, footballer, 43; Mr John MacGregor, MP, 57; Miss Manuela Maleeva, tennis player, 27; Countess Mountbatten of Burma, 70; Professor Sir Charles Oatley, electrical engineer, 90; Mr Alan Parker, film director, 50; the Hon Hanning Philips, former Lord Lieutenant of Dyfed, 90; Lord Rossmore, 63; Mr Michael Rudman, theatre director and producer, 55; Sir Albert Sloman, former vice-chancellor, Essex University, 73; Mr Jocelyn Stevens, chairman, English Heritage, 62; Mr D.M. Stewart, principal, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, 64; Mr A.W.H. Stewart-Moore, former chairman, Gallaher, 79; Lord Wilson of Tillyorn, 59.

Anniversaries

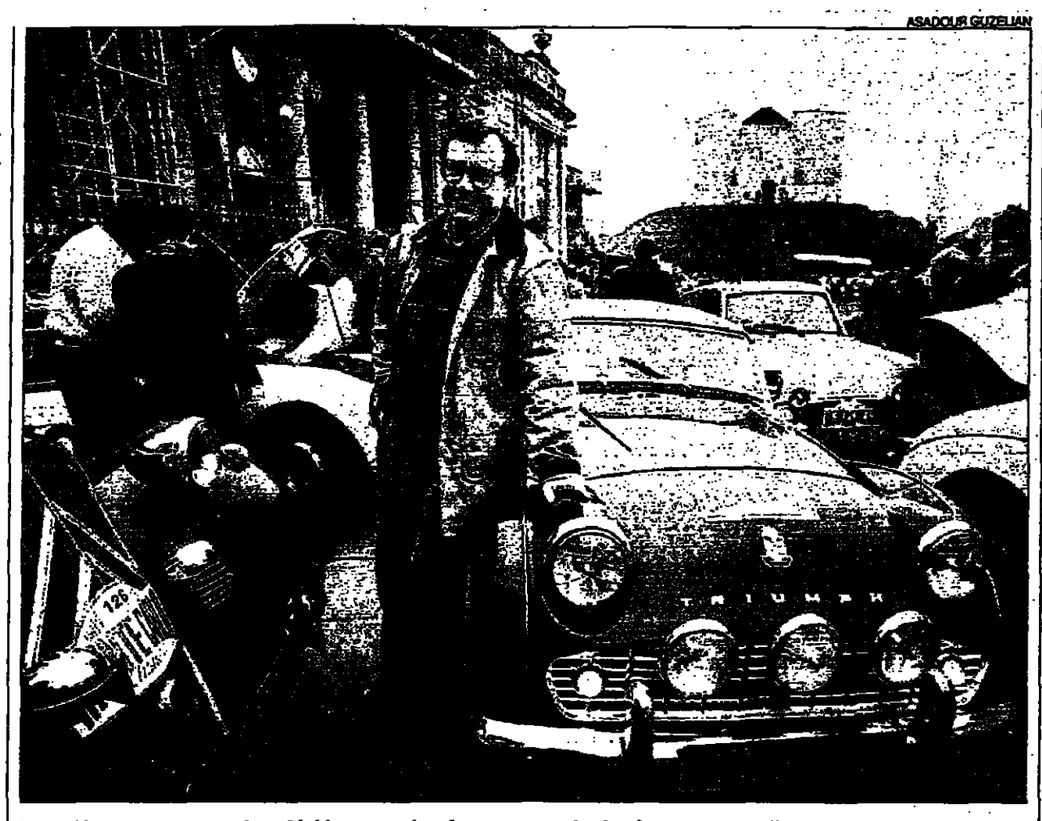
BIRTHS: Claude Prosper Crébillon, novelist, Paris, 1707; Thomas Malthus, economist and demographer, Rookery, Surrey, 1766; Christopher Sholes, pioneer of the typewriter, Mooresburg, Pennsylvania, 1819; Frank Harris, writer, Galway, 1856; Israel Zangwill, writer, Zionist and philanthropist, London 1864.

DEATHS: King Richard II reigned 1377-99, murdered at Pontefract Castle, 1400; John Hadley, pioneer of the sextant, East Barnet, Hertfordshire, 1744; Captain James Cook, explorer, murdered by natives, Hawaii, 1779; Sir William Blackstone, jurist, London, 1780; Henry Maudsley, inventor of the metal lathe, London, 1831; William Dyce, painter, London, 1864; William Sherman, Union General in the American Civil War, New York, 1891; Sir Pelham (P.G.) Wodehouse, writer, New York, 1975; Sir Julian Huxley, biologist, London, 1975; Frederick (Fritz) Loewe, composer, Palm Springs, 1988.

London's Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children admitted its first patient, 1852.

The St Valentine's Day massacre took place in Chicago, 1929.

ASADOUR GUZELIAN



Keith Glover at York yesterday with his 1958 Triumph carrying the *Times* logo, for the start of the world's biggest rally for classic cars. If the weather was biting, it was a mere chill to what is in prospect over the next week (Kevin Eason writes).

Classic cars with names steeped in motoring history — others included Sunbeam and Rover — roared away for the Monte Carlo Challenge. The event sets out to recreate the Monte Carlo rallies of the Fifties and Sixties when amateur drivers rubbed shoulders and won glory from teams run by the biggest motor manufacturers. One of the competitors is Sir David Steel, the foreign affairs spokesman for the Liberal Democrats, in a Rover 3-litre.

As Mr Glover, a banker with NatWest Markets in the City of London, shivered at the start, he contemplated a 359-mile drive in his TR3A on B-roads to Newhaven before crossing to Dieppe for the dash down to the south of France. In between are Alpine roads which can be swept with blizzards at any moment. The 1965 rally was almost wrecked by a sudden blizzard and only 22 cars out of 237 finished the race. It was won by Timo Makinen in a Mini-Cooper.

Mr Glover remained confident, even though regulation clothing for the event is little more than duffel coats and leather flying hats. "It will be tough on man and machine," he said. "But it does hark back to the great days of motoring when there were no back-up teams of mechanics, just the driver and co-driver and their own ingenuity."

Service dinners

British Liaison and Movements Staff TA

The Commander and Officers of the British Liaison and Movements Staff TA held their annual regimental guest night on Saturday at Grantham. Lieutenant-Colonel C.M.W. Milner-Williams presided. Brigadier P.A.D. Evans, Colonel M.J. Hughes and Colonel M.N. Woodford were the principal guests.

Somerset Light Infantry

Regular Officers of the Somerset Light Infantry, who were serving in the regiment at the time of amalgamation, gave a dinner on Saturday at the County Hotel, Taunton, to mark the retirement of Lieutenant-Colonel R.G.H. Chetwynd Stapylton, the last officer to be commissioned into the regiment.

University news

Professor Alec Broers, Master of Churchill College, Cambridge, has become the only British engineer to be elected an Associate of the United States National Academy of Engineering.

He is also head of the engineering department at Cambridge. Election to the Academy "is among the highest professional distinctions accorded to an engineer", the university said.

It follows Prof Broers's contribution to electron beam lithography and microscopy and his leadership in microfabrication. Membership honours those who have made an important contribution to engineering theory and practice and have demonstrated "unusual accomplishment in pioneering new developments".

Appointments

The following to be Recorders on the Western Circuit:

R.D.I. Adam, M.J.S. Axtell, J.G. Boggis, QC, P.M. Darlow, F.H.S. Gilbert, QC, G.T. Harrap, R.G. Kaye, QC, N. Murray, J.O. Neligan, A.O.H. Sander, W.P.L. Sellick, M.H. Tennant, J.J. Wright.

Brigadier B.V.H. Fullerton to be Secretary of the City of London Endowment Trust for St Paul's Cathedral.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Dr Rod Anderson, Vicar, Cottingley (soon to be Vicar, Heaton, St Barnabas) and Rural Dean of Airedale: to be *also* an Honorary Canon of Bradford Cathedral (Bradford).

The Rev Canon William Andrew, Communications Director of the Bible Society and Honorary Assistant Curate, the Lydiards Team Ministry (Bristol): to be part-time Communications Consultant of the Bible Society and part-time Assistant Curate (Parish Administrator), the Lydiards Team Ministry, same diocese.

The Rev Christopher Channer, Vicar, Langton Green: to be Chaplain at Holmeswood House School (Rochester).

The Rev Celia Chapman, non-stipendiary minister, Bilston Team Ministry: now *also* Chaplain, St Peter's Collegiate School, Wolverhampton (Lichfield).

The Rev Nicholas Charrington, Chaplain at St Luke's Hospice, Plymouth, and Assistant Curate, Plymstock parish church (Exeter): to be Priest-in-charge, St Ruthen, Longden: Christ Church, Annscroft: St Edith, Pulverbatch (Hereford).

The Rev Ernest Childs: Hon Curate, St Peter's, West Lynn: to be non-stipendiary Priest-in-charge, St Peter's, West Lynn (Ely).

The Rev Margaret Morris, Deacon (NSM), Quorn St Bartholomew: to be *also* Diocesan Chaplain (NSM), For People Affected by HIV (Leicester)

The Rev James Newcome, Vicar, Bar Hill and Rural Dean of North Stowe (Ely): to be Canon Residentiary of Chester Cathedral, and Director of Ordinands (Chester)

The Rev Derek Payne, Organising Secretary (South East England), Church of England Children's Society (Canterbury): to be Chaplain in Lanzarote, Canary Islands (Europe)

The Rev Susan Richardson, Deacon, Beverley, St Nicholas: to be Deacon-in-charge, Cloughton, and Training Officer in the East Riding archdeaconry (York)

The Rev Andrew Ridley, Vicar, St Michael, Runcorn and Diocesan Chaplain to the Mothers Union (Chester): to be *also* Rural Dean of Frodsham, same diocese

The Rev Gordon Steele, Team Vicar, St Andrew's, Uxbridge (London): to be Vicar, St Alban the Martyr, Northampton (Peterborough)

The Rev Dr David Stone, Curate, St Jude, Courtfield Gardens, South Kensington: now, Vicar, St Jude, Courtfield Gardens (London)

The Rev Canon Roger Symon, Secretary to the Archbishop of Canterbury for Anglican Communion Affairs: to be a Residentiary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral (Canterbury)

The Rev Russen Thomas, lately Vicar, Lanteglos by Fowey (Truro): to be Chaplain of South Tenerife, Canary Islands (Europe)

The Rev Stephen Taylor, Priest-in-charge, Saints Michael and George, White City Estate: to be *also* Priest-in-charge, St Luke, Uxbridge Road, Shepherd's Bush (London)

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Michael Broadbent, Priest-in-charge, Startforth w. Bowes and Rokeby w. Brignall (Ripon): to retire as from April 5

The Rev Robert Clark, Vicar, St Paul, Hatton Hill, Litherland (Liverpool): retires from March 31

The Rev Ernest Exell, Rector, Abbess Roding and Beauchamp Roding w. White Roding (Chelmsford): to retire as from July 31

The Rev John Franks, Rector, Baughurst and Ramsdell and Wolverton w. Ewhurst and Hannington (Winchester): to retire as from June 30

The Rev Hector Huxham, Chaplain of St James's University Hospital, Leeds (Ripon): to retire as from May

The Rev Canon David Marriott, Vicar, Wye w. Brook (Canterbury): to retire as from July 31

The Rev Joe Orrell, Assistant Curate, St Aidan, Bilinge (Liverpool): to retire as from February 28

The Rev Donald Pankhurst, Rector, St Oswald, Winwick (Liverpool): retires from April 30

The Rev Barry Tunstall, Rector, Kirkby Overblow (Ripon): to retire as from April 30

The Rev St John Turner, Vicar, St Mark, Harrogate (Ripon): to retire as from April 30

The Rev Canon Michael Vonberg, Vicar, All Saints, Kenley (Southwark): to retire as from April.

Archaeology

Secret of Herod's Temple

BY NORMAN HAMMOND
ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE stability of Herod's Temple in Jerusalem, including the Wailing Wall revered by Jews, is due more to clever engineering than to divine providence, recent excavations have shown.

A "master course" of huge stones in the centre of the temple's western wall served to stabilise the entire building, and has protected it against several earthquakes over the past two millennia.

The discovery comes from the recent work of Dr Dan Bahat, former head of the Jerusalem section of the Israel Archaeological Service. He has been investigating the northern extension of the temple platform, originally built by Herod, the Edomite king of Israel between 37BC and 4BC, best known for his part as a villain in the Gospels.

Dr Bahat's team has investigated the western wall of the temple platform through a series of tunnels running below medieval and modern Jerusalem and has revealed more than a thousand feet of Herod's walls. At the northern end of the platform, Herod built the Antonia fortress (often presumed to be the site of Christ's trial before Pilate).

One foundation stone is more than 40ft long and calculated to weigh 370 tons; several others exceed 100 tons. They were moved from their quarry by using sand ramps, wooden rollers and gravity, Dr Bahat believes.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.I. Bell and Miss K.J. White

The engagement is announced between Patrick, son of Mr and Mrs Robin Bell, of Edinburgh, and Karen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerald White, of Meltham, West Yorkshire.

Mr J.D. Buckland and Miss A.C. Robinson

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mr and Mrs G.F. Buckland, of Woodborough, Nottingham, and Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Robinson, of Waterloo, Brussels.

Mr M.A.C. Peters and Miss N.J. Walker

The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of the late Mr Eric Peters and of Mrs Eric Peters, of Chelsea, and Nikki, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Walker, of Lenham, Kent.

Mr C.E. Courtney and Miss C.E. Johnson

The engagement is announced between Craig, son of Mr R.E. Courtney and Mrs H. Wendland, of Modesto, California, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs T.F. Johnson, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Mr R.P. Guida and Miss J. Davies

The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Guida, of Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, and Julia, only daughter of Mrs Denise Davies, of Beverley, North Humberside.

Mr R.F.A. Hawkins and Miss K.M.B. Jones

The engagement is announced between Robert Frederick, son of Mr and Mrs Fred Hawkins, of Honeysuckle Cottage, Lydbury North, Shropshire, and Katherine Mary, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Chris Jones, of Market Lavington, Wiltshire. The marriage will take place in Devizes on August 6.

Mr D.R.G. Lush and Miss C.S.M. Rushworth

The engagement is announced between Dickon, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robert Lush, of Woodperry, Oxon, and Simone, daughter of Mr Graham Rushworth and Mrs Helen Rushworth, both of London.

Mr E.M.H. Page and Miss H.R. Sykes

The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Page, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, and Hazel, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Sykes, of Failsworth, Manchester.

Mr G.R. Perricone and Miss N.A.F. Guimard

The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Dott and Signora Mario Perricone, of London, and Nathalie, daughter of M and Mme François Guimard, of Paris.

Mr F.J.R. Piggott and Miss J.R. Arzoumanian

The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Major-General and Mrs F.J.C. Piggott, of Kirby-le-Soken, Essex, and Judy, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Pierre Arzoumanian, of Beirut, Lebanon.

Mr T.J. Laurence and Miss S.M.S. Gordon

The engagement is announced between Tim, son of Mr Keith Laurence, of East Lydford, Somerset, and Mrs Jack Gartrell, of Petworth, West Sussex, and Serena, daughter of Mr Ian Strathearn Gordon, of Uley, Gloucestershire, and Mrs Peter Rountree, of Buttermere, Wiltshire.

Mr P.J. Quinn and Miss J.L.Y. Ang

The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Quinn, of West Derby, Liverpool, and June, daughter of Madam Lee Phooi Wah and the late Mr Ang Cheng Chuan, of Penang, West Malaysia.

Mr J.R. Spencer-Nairn and Miss D.J. Williamson

The engagement is announced between James Robert, elder son of Sir Robert and Lady Spencer-Nairn, of Cupar, Fife, and Dominique Jane, only daughter of Mr Michael Williamson, of London, and Mrs Charles Newman, of Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Marriages

Mr D.M.A. Bertie and Miss C.C. Mason-Hornby

The marriage took place on Saturday at St James's, Burton, Westmorland, of Mr David Bertie and Miss Catherine Mason-Hornby. The Rev Jonathan Nodder officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Anna Wills, the Hon Clementina Elphinstone, Sam Speed and Christopher Holt. The Hon David Dalrymple was best man.

Mr C.L. Macdonald and Miss J.E. Drysdale

The marriage took place on Saturday, February 12, at All Saints, Brill, between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Macdonald of Tote, and Juliet, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Drysdale. Bishop Mervyn Stockwood and Father Alistair Russell officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Emma Cobb, Sophie Lane Fox, Edward Dent, James Hood and Lachlan Shaw Stewart. Mr Andrew Macdonald was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Latest wills

Miss Caroline Mary Dent, of London W4, executive director of planning and conservation for the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the first woman to be elected president of a division of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, left estate valued at £274,351 net.

Sir Basil Arthur Parkes, of Ramsey, Isle of Man, President of the North British Maritime Group and an Honorary Brother of Hull Trinity House, left estate in England and Wales valued at £458,624 net.

He left £5,000 each to the Hull Boys Club and the Isle of Man Anti-Cancer Association, £2,500 each to the Sail Training Association, Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen and RNLI, and £500 to Beverley Minster.

Mr Brian Pattison Garraway, of London SW10, Chairman of the Lloyd's Regulatory Board and former Deputy chairman of BAT Industries, left estate valued at £1,343,468 net.

Mr Peter John Greening, of Camerton, Bath, Avon, vice-chairman of the Bath Preservation Trust and chairman of its architectural committee and founder of the Bath and Camerton Archaeological Society, left estate valued at £127,587 net.

He left £68,000 and effects not otherwise bequeathed to personal legatees, all material relating to the Camerton and Nerrison excavations to Bristol City Museum, his Glastonbury material to Glastonbury Abbey, all materials relating to the Bath City Wall excavations to Bath City Reference Library, the Skinner material to the Somerset Archaeological Society, Taunton, all his books to Bristol University, £5,000 to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Clifton, £1,000 each to Camerton Parish Church Churchyard Fund, and the Fabric Fund of Downside Abbey, Bath, and the residue equally between CAFOD and Save the Children Fund.

Other estates include net before tax paid:

Mr Alexander Melling Fairlie, of Hove, East Sussex £710,223

Mrs Margherita Freely, Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex £677,187

Mr Geoffrey Fowler Gutteridge, of Southampton £734,686

Mr Charles Barrie King, of Edgbaston, West Midlands £634,687

Mr Thomas MacKenzie Loudon, of London W5 £724,369

Mrs Duillia Riding, of Longridge, Lancs £735,962

Mr Jack Douglas Shepard, of Loxwood, West Sussex £604,089

Mrs Barbara Summerlin Stagg, of Cyncoed, Cardiff £1,394,341

Nature notes

IN SPITE of the cold winds, more birds are starting to sing. In the hedges, yellowhammers sit on a prominent twig and stammer out the first few notes of their song; the long 'cheese' note at the end will be added a little later.

Mistle thrushes defy the wind from the tops of swaying trees: their song has a wild, windswept air at all times. Coal tits sing from lower in the branches, with a rapid, more liquid version of the great tit's "teacher, teacher" song. On wintry nights, tree-creepers may burrow into the soft red bark of Wellingtonias to make a roosting place: they have a thin, high-pitched song that older people often find hard to hear.

The first mauve flowers are open on the lesser periwinkle, whose dark evergreen leaves climb up slopes and cling to fences. The starry, golden flowers of lesser celandine are about to burst from the round buds, each standing at the end of its own thin stalk.



Mistle thrush: wild song

Queen wasps are still hibernating: they can be found hanging in the folds of thick curtains. Honeybees live sluggishly in their hives, feeding on their store of honey.

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The tongue has power of life and death: make friends with it and enjoy its fruits. Proverbs 18 : 21 (REB)

BIRTHS

BALL - On February 9th to Lizzie (nee Morrish) and Simon, a son (Frederick John) a brother for George and Alexander

BRYER-ASH - On February 7th to Claire (née Newton) and David, a son, Thomas William, a most welcome brother for Gemma.

DEARLOVE - On February 10th 1994 to Annabel (née Pigott) and Mark, a daughter, Louisa Clare.

GUERTLER - 4 years ago on Valentine's Day 14/2/90 to Heiner and Selima, a son, Maximilian, half-brother to Philipp, Pedro and John.

KERRIN On 30th January in Sydney to Clare (née Hogan) and Colin a daughter Hannah.

PLOUTARHOU - On 11th February at the North Middlesex Hospital to Niki and Christofer, a beautiful daughter, Olivia.

DEATHS

ARMSTRONG On 10th February peacefully at Henley-on-Thames Sylvia Holden Earle (née Batley), aged 83, widow of Brigadier C D Armstrong C.B.E. D.S.O. M.C., East Surrey Regiment. Service at Reading Crematorium, All Hallows Road, Caversham, Reading, on Thursday, 17th February at 3.15pm. No flowers, but donations to Royal National Institute For The Blind, 224 Great Portland Street, London, W1N 5TB, would be appreciated.

DEATHS

BALLARD-THOMAS - Peacefully on 10th February at St Winefride's Nursing Home, Cardiff. Huw David, formerly of Fochriw. Loved son of the late Lydia and Griff Thomas. Dear nephew of Beryl, Mona and Arthur. Will be fondly remembered by all his cousins. Resting at Augustine J. Stone Funeral Home until being received into St Teilo's R.C. Church, Whitchurch, Cardiff, on Wednesday February 16th at 4.30 pm. Requiem Mass Thursday at 12.15 pm, afterwards to Thornhill Cemetery. Family flowers only please but donations if desired may be sent to Tenovus Cancer Research, 11 Whitchurch Road, Cardiff or Ampleforth, Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund, Ampleforth Abbey, York.

DAVENPORT - On 5th February 1994, suddenly at home in Dallas, Texas, aged 51 years. Nell, beloved and loving husband of Maureen, and son of Margaret Chapman. Dear brother of Gillian and much loved brother-in-law, son-in-law and uncle. Cremation has taken place. Memorial gathering in Colorado Springs on 14th February and on Monday 21st February at The Hilton National, Cobham, Surrey at 11.30 am. If desired donations may be made to Burwood Park School (a school for hearing impaired children) c/o RIZK, 109 Manor Road, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN16 3PT. Personal letters welcome to above address.

DEATHS

DOSSETT - Dr. J.A. Peter of Leeds, died 6th February, aged 75 years after a long illness cheerfully endured. Mourned by Eileen, their daughter Monica, his elder daughters Jane, Clare, Meg and Anne, and their mother Dorothy. Funeral at 1 pm on Tuesday February 15th at Lawnswood Crematorium, Leeds. All welcome, but family flowers only. Donations to St Gemma's Hospice, Leeds. Enquiries to Hughes Funeral Services, Leeds. tel: (0532) 480963, Dec Gratias.

HOUGHTON - On 10th February 1994, peacefully after a long and courageous battle, at Puckham Woods House, aged 48, Elizabeth (Libby) Catherine, née Summers, much loved wife of Michael and mother of Deborah, Robert and Katie. Funeral 2.30pm, Thursday 17th February at Whittington. Family flowers. Donations if desired to St Bartholomew's Hospital Oncology Research Fund. Funeral Directors, Trotman & Co, Watson House Barn, Northleach, Glos. Tel: 0451 860288.

HOULDEY - On February 10th 1994 peacefully at home after a long illness borne with great courage, Irene Dorothea, much loved wife of the late Gerald, and mother of Michael, Frances, Ginny and David. Devoted grandmother to her seven grandchildren. Funeral Service on Saturday 19th February 1994 at 12 noon at Holy Trinity, Warnwell. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to The Dorset Respite and Hospice Trust c/o Woods, 11a Icen Way, Dorchester.

DEATHS

JACKSON - On 8th February, Dr. Andrew M. B. Ch. B. ret'd of 57 Castle Street Luton, peacefully at Harefield Hospital. Much loved husband of Audrey and loving father of Andrew, Funeral service at Luton Crematorium on Wednesday 16th February at 2.00pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired for the British Heart Foundation may be sent to Neville Funeral Service, Neville House, Marsh Road, Leagrave, Luton. LU3 2RZ.

MacCALLUM SCOTT - Nora, adored wife of the late John MacCallum Scott of Forres, Moray. No letters. If desired donations to Rheumatoid Arthritis and Cancer Research. Cremation already taken place.

SAMUELSON - On February 11th, peacefully in The Earl Mountbatten Hospice, Peter Charles, aged 79. Much loved husband of Eileen, devoted father to Nick and Mike and beloved by all his family. Funeral 2.30pm Thursday February 17th at The I.O.W Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations in his memory to The Isle of Wright Hospice, Newport.

SMYTH - The Requiem Mass for Esther Mary Smyth will be celebrated at the Church of St John of Jerusalem, The Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, 60 Grove End Road, London NW8, on Friday 18th February 1994 at 11.30 am. Enquiries to A. France & Son, tel: (071) 405-4901.

DEATHS

TREGLIA - Sara Emilia Malvina, peacefully on February 9th 1994, aged 29 years, following a brave fight against cancer. Much loved and missed by her mother and father, sisters Gemma and Gabriella and her partner Robert. The funeral service and cremation on Thursday February 17th at 1pm at Guildford Crematorium. All flowers or donations to Hodgkin's Disease Association for British National Lymphoma Investigation to G.M. Luff & Partners Funeral Directors, 121-123 High Street, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1AQ. tel: (0483) 418682.

WOOLLARD - On February 10th 1994, at the Lansdowne Nursing Home, Newmarket, following a long illness, Helen Lambert (Betty) née Little, aged 83, Dearly loved wife of the late Laddie Woollard, dear mother of Geoffrey and Sue, devoted grandmother of Sarah, James, Andy and Willie and great-grandmother of Beth and James. Funeral Service on Friday 18th February at 11 am at St Mary's Church, Swaffham, Bulbeck, followed by private interment. Family flowers only please but if desired donations may be sent to the Lansdowne Nursing Home for the benefit of the dedicated staff.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

ELLIS - Maud Alexandrina, beloved mother of Vivian and Hermione. Deeply loved and sorely missed.

IN MEMORIAM-PRIVATE

HOOPER - Margaret Lillian 30th October 1914 - 13th February 1993. A much loved and admired mother always in my heart and thoughts. God bless you from your son Brian.

MELLARSY - A Memorial Service for Kenneth Mellarby will be held at 2.30pm on Friday 18th February in the Unitarian Church, Emmanuel Road, Cambridge. All friends and colleagues welcome.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTING

COLLECTOR seeks 1974 and 1975 Halcyon Days Valentine boxes, to complete collection. Please Reply to Box No 8827

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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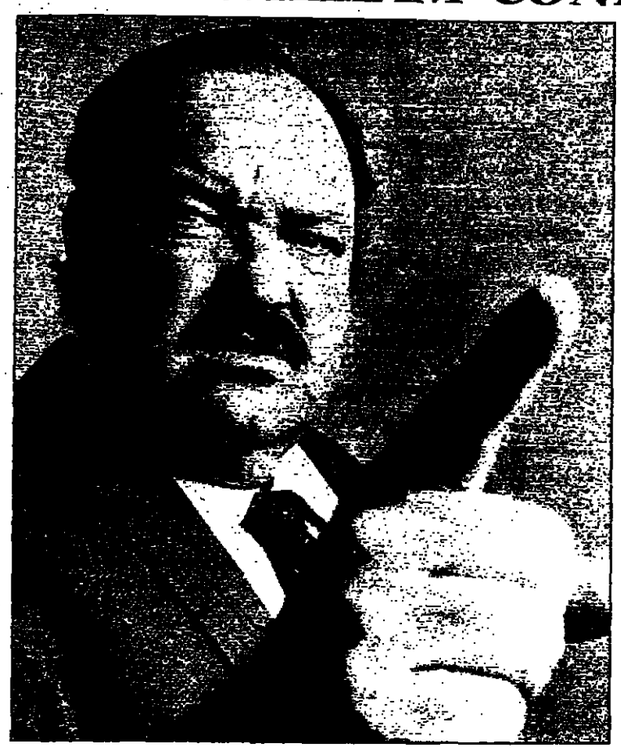
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orthcoming marriages

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM CONRAD

William Conrad, television actor and film director, died of a heart attack in Hollywood on February 11 aged 73. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky, on September 27, 1920.



"I LIKE to think that Cannon was the first with a gimmick. After me came Kojak's lollipops, Columbo's raincoat and McCloud's horse. Not to mention Charlie's Angels' unmentionables." So said William Conrad of his alter-ego Frank Cannon.

Cannon's gimmick was his weight. He was television's fattest detective, certainly more consistently so than Raymond Burr's Ironside (Burr was much taller and sometimes dropped to 16 stone). And Conrad, who tipped the scales at an impressive 19 stone, was more active than his wheelchair-bound colleague. He puffed and wheezed his way through car chases — the suspension of his Lincoln convertible sagging alarmingly whenever he squeezed in — and liked to try his hand at stunts. At the time, he was the only television detective without an assistant to handle some of the spade-work.

Cannon proved one of the most popular American television detective series during its golden age in the mid-1970s, and spawned a host of less than physically perfect investigators — glass-eyed, balding and obese. The series made Conrad a star, rather late in life, after years on the other side of the camera as a film producer and director.

For fifteen years previously Conrad had been out in the wilderness in Hollywood as an unfashionably well-covered actor. A fighter pilot in the war, his acting career began in 1946 with supporting, and usually villainous, roles in *The Killers*, *Arch of Triumph*, (1948), *Cry Danger* (1951) and *Johnny Concho* (1956). From 1952 he was heard as the voice of the lean and dangerous Marshal Matt Dillon of Dodge City on CBS radio's *Gunsmoke* but, when the series moved to a television slot in 1955, Conrad was removed from the part by worried producers (after John Wayne refused the role, James Arness took over).

Conrad fell back on other talents, directing films — shockers and thrillers such as *Two on a Guillotine* (1964) and *Brainstorm* (1965) — and television. In 1963 he was brought in as a director to rescue the failing television series *77 Sunset Strip*. His gravelly voice kept him in radio work — even though he became known as "The Man of a Thousand Voice", because everything he played sounded the same — and he was the unseen narrator of the television series *The Fugitive*, 1963-67.

Having accepted that his acting career was over, he was surprised in the late 1960s, at the instigation of a friend, to be asked to play a longshoremen's union boss in a series called *In the Name of the Game*. A producer who saw him had the bright idea of creating a series around a detective with an eating problem (television private eyes were then still in the Philip Marlowe mould, mainly a clean cut and glamorous bunch). *Cannon*'s pilot was a success, and the first series in 1971 — a season when 70 per cent of all new American shows failed — put Conrad firmly on the map.

The reason for Conrad's popularity was, as the producer had foreseen, his fallibility. Standing at a mere 5ft 9in, Conrad was hardly a physical match for some of the gangsters he faced. He was no superhero — he came off the worse in fights, and bled when he was shot at. His beloved car ended up a wreck, too, and was once blown up, though it miraculously reappeared as good as new the following week.

When he was not out walking the mean streets, Cannon's favourite occupation was cooking, though his culinary preparations were always being tiresomely interrupted by calls to duty. Beneath the tough exterior, Cannon had a conscience, and though he usually charged big fees, he would sometimes do a job — particularly if it was for a pretty girl — for free. Conrad loved filming the series: "It was one programme where I could eat and drink to my heart's content and call it 'keeping in shape'," but after five years felt that enough was enough.

When *Cannon* ended (in Britain in the autumn of 1977), Conrad toured America in a stage play, and appeared in an ill-fated and short-lived television series called *Keefer*, in which he played a Humphrey Bogart type running a bar in Lisbon during the Second World War. He appeared as Nero Wolfe, Rex Stout's orchid-loving detective, in a television series in the early 1980s, and from 1987 until 1992, could be seen in America on *Jake and the Fatman*, as "Fatman" McCabe, a former Honolulu cop with a weakness for Hawaian shirts and baseball caps (ITV axed the series in this country after only four episodes).

Conrad had trained as a singer as a young man, and had an impressive bass voice which covered three octaves. In 1981 he surprised music critics by successfully handling the lead in a televison version of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado*. He had a wide circle of friends, and the novelist Anthony Burgess claimed to have been inspired by Conrad to write the only book he was really happy with — *MF* (1971).

William Conrad's first wife died in 1979 from cancer and the following year he married Tippy Huntley, who survives him together with a son from his first marriage.

LOVRAJ KUMAR

Lovraj Kumar, former Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministries of Steel and of Petroleum and Chemicals, died of cardiac arrest in Delhi on February 3 aged 67. He was born on August 26, 1926.

LOVI, as his friends called him, was one of the greatest innovators and institution builders of modern India. His businesslike approach to problems — no doubt strengthened by his professional beginnings with Burmah Shell — derived fundamentally from his innate yearning to get things done.

Kumar believed passionately in what central planning could do with India's natural and human resources and soon moved to become petroleum adviser to the government, making India a serious player in the oil world through a great increase in domestic production and skilful, imaginative tie-ups abroad. Above all, his vision and determination led to one of India's most successful public sector undertakings, the great petrochemicals complex in Baroda.

Trained as a chemist, he always kept up with scientific and technological developments, so that people in all kinds of specialisations, from railway-signalling to forestation, solar energy to handlooms, automatically came to him for advice. He always gave it unselfishly and stimulatingly.

Equally at home with government, with business and industry and with science and technology, and with a deep sense of what they could together do for India's human as well as national needs, he constantly bridged the three worlds, seeking ways to make them work together better. Kumar wanted Indians to do things for themselves but had no prejudices about foreign collaboration. For him, a self-confident India ought to be able to move — without fear of multinationals — to the forefront of the world's economy.

What he could not abide was political interference. Good ministers would not move without him; the less scrupulous found they could not get round his integrity. He found a way of passing all obstacles to build up institutions of research, training, production, above all of excellence, doing all he could to help others with ideas and backing and always self-effacingly.

Retirement only made him busier in wider fields — government committees, business boards, non-governmental organisations. Among his campaigns were ones to save the great Ridge of Delhi, to update refineries, to develop wastelands (a particular commitment) — to say nothing of his tireless work for the World Wild Life Fund and the Indian National Trust for Art and Culture.

Kumar had just become chairman of the National Council for Applied Economic Research and — happiest of all — of the board of governors of his Alma Mater, the Doon School. One of India's first two Rhodes Scholars, he had also been chairman, and remained a member, of the Selection Committee for India. There was no end to his vitality or his range of interests.

Lovraj Kumar's greatest loyalty was to his Indian roots and schooling but he acknowledged an almost equal debt in what formed him as a person to his years at Oxford. He certainly made the most of his time there, not only academically but in terms of the opportunities that were on offer from clubs and societies. He was also a gifted cricketer playing for his university and state in India and for I Zingari at Oxford. Unhappily, a serious back injury deprived him of the chance of being considered for a Blue.

There is no count of the people he knew around the world. Courteous and helpful to all, especially to young people wanting to develop some idea or project, he liked most to spend long evenings with close friends. The only thing he missed on leaving government was the huge compound in which he loved not so much to garden as to nurture plants. It was another aspect of his wanting to see how things could be made to grow.

Lovraj Kumar is survived by his wife Dharma, an economic historian, and by their daughter Radha.

THE DUKE OF ALBURQUERQUE

Beltran Osorio, 18th Duke of Alburquerque, best known in this country for his attempts to win the Grand National as an amateur rider, died in Madrid on February 8 aged 74. He was born on December 15, 1919.

THE myth of Sisyphus provides a fair parallel, in classical terms, with the racing life of the Duke of Alburquerque. But in place of continually reaching the top of a mountain in Hades and seeing the stone always crash back to the bottom, it was his fate to keep trying to win the Grand National and to be condemned forever to fail.

Seven times between 1952 and 1976, and starting at an age when most riders would have retired, did this happen, entailing appalling injuries and almost the loss of his life. Only once did he triumphantly complete the Aintree course. Yet such is the sporting sentiment of the English in admiring the implacable, if seemingly foolhardy, spirit of a gallant loser that the public took the Duke eagerly to their hearts.

He was a member of one of the most renowned families in Spain: his title dated from 1464, one ancestor being ambassador to the court of Henry VIII. But, in parallel with his dedicated loyalty to the Spanish crown (he was head of Don Juan's household for many years), the Duke had a further passion which eventually became an obsession: the Grand National. This started from the moment he found among the presents for his eighth birthday a film of a National in the 1920s. He once recalled: "I had loved horses since a child. Now I saw this beautiful race, the greatest test of a horse and rider in the world. I said then I would win that race one day."

But it was not until 1952, on a horse he had bought called Brown Jack III, and trained by the late Peter Cazalet, that he first lined up with 46 others at Aintree. By then he was 32, and in addition to being of an unlikely tall stature for a jockey, he had to put up 10lbs overweight. That year it was not merely the Duke who had faith in his ability. The professional backer, Joe Sunlight, had supported him to win £10,000 at 40-1. Alas, the hopes of both of them did not last beyond the fourth fence, where Brown Jack III came down, and the Duke for the first, but by no means the last time, ended up unconscious in Walton Hospital with cracked vertebrae.

His next attempt, after much race-riding in Europe, was not until 1963. This time, on the French-trained Jonjo, the Duke, after being prominent among the leaders, got as far as the 20th fence before being unluckily brought down, with resultant cuts and bruises. Two years later, on *Groomsman, trained in Ire*land, there was another fall, at Valentine's Brook first time round: so into Walton Hospital again with a broken leg which was the 22nd fracture of his career.

Two seasons later, he was within sight of the stands when pulling up, four fences from home, his 100-1 chance *L'Empereur*. Then, in 1973, began his partnership with the Spanish-bred Nereo, an association which realised the very best and, at the end, the very worst of the Duke's love affair with the Grand National. Bad luck dogged their first try. Almost immediately following the start, a stirrup-leather broke and they had to pull up before the Canal Turn, although achieving the minor miracle, which says much for the Duke's horsemanship, of surviving Becher's Brook.

Consolation came the following season. The Duke was 54; two weeks before the National, 16 screws were taken out of a leg as a result of an accident in Seville; and he rode with a broken collarbone. But he and Nereo finished the course, eighth behind Red Rum. The Duke's smile was as wide as that of the winning jockey, although he self-deprecatingly said: "I sat like a sack of potatoes and gave the horse no chance. It deserves another chance."

That chance came in 1976 but, on the faithful Nereo, it was nearly fatal for the Duke. Up with the leaders, he took a terrible fall at the aptly-numbered 13th fence. Horses thundered over, trampling him. Two days later he regained consciousness in the intensive care unit of, once again, Walton Hospital. He had seven ribs, vertebrae and wrist all broken, a fractured thigh and severe concussion.

Typically, he wanted to try yet again in 1977, but the Jockey Club by then had introduced a rule whereby amateurs over 50 had to undergo medical examination. This, needless to say, the Duke of Alburquerque would have had no hope of passing. So it was the end of the road, and the end of a progress which the British racing public had no difficulty in recognising as heroic.

He was twice married — his first wife died in 1969 — and he is succeeded in the Spanish dukedom by their son Joannes, the Marquess de Cuellar.



RUDOLF SCHWARZ



Rudolf Schwarz, CBE, conductor, died on January 30 aged 88. He was born in Vienna on April 29, 1905.

ALTHOUGH never quite in the front rank of conductors, Rudolf Schwarz was a vital figure in British music-making in the decades following the Second World War. Arriving here after the war, having survived torture in Nazi labour camps that left a permanent mark on his mobility, he quickly established himself as conductor, successively, of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, 1947-51, and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, 1951-57. In these posts he was a stalwart trainer of orchestral musicians, who revered him, and a secure interpreter of a wide variety of music, proving selfless in promoting music rather than himself. He became a British citizen in 1952.

When in 1957 the BBC was looking for a successor to Malcolm Sargent as principal conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, one who would be more interested than Sargent had been in tackling modern scores, the choice fell on Schwarz. As at Birmingham, he conducted a wide and eclectic selection of works including many premières, among them that of Britten's *Nocturne*. But critics and, more important, the public were mixed in their response to his readings. In spite of his diligence he failed to carry the charisma needed to fill halls; in 1962 he felt he ought to resign and let a more popular figure succeed him.

In 1964 Schwarz became conductor of the Northern Sinfonia at Newcastle upon Tyne and was appointed artistic director three years later, increasing the repertory and, at the same time, the reputation, of the orchestra. Although he continued to work with regularity in this country and in Norway, his career had passed its peak by the 1970s. He was appointed CBE on his retirement from the Sinfonia in 1973.

As were so many of his generation, Schwarz was inspired by the legendary Artur Nikisch to take up conducting. To that end he studied in Vienna with Hans Gal. In a manner typical of the Austro-German tradition, he filled a post as coach, and thereby learnt his trade, at the Dusseldorf Opera, then became assistant conductor at the Karlsruhe Opera where he stayed until ousted by the Nazis in 1933. He still managed to eke out a career intermittently in Germany up to the time he was imprisoned in 1943. After a period of recuperation in Sweden, he was chosen for Bournemouth in 1947 as a result of a competition.

Schwarz was much admired for his command of both awkward and new scores. His acute ear and his feeling for a work's pulse gained the admiration of his players, who responded to a lack of ego unusual in a conductor. That was particularly true in his championship of the music of Roberto Gerhard, a particular favourite at the time Sir William Glock and Schwarz were at the helm of broadcast music. The late romantics also found in him a sympathetic interpreter, not least of the symphonies of Mahler, less frequently played 30 years ago than they are today, and of the music of Elgar.

He always had a regard for the welfare of his players. Loyalty on both sides of the podium was the hallmark of his professional life. Perhaps an absence of ruthlessness and drive prevented him from reaching the heights that might otherwise have been his.

His wife Greta Ohlsson died in 1984. They had one son who survives him.

JOHNNY KWANGO

Johnny Kwango, wrestler, died on January 19 aged 73. He was born on April 20, 1920.



JOHNNY KWANGO was born into a family with a long show business background. His mother, Irene Best, was born on a sugar plantation in Barbados and at the age of ten, with her sister, joined a German circus where she became a strong woman and then possibly Europe's first woman wrestler.

Kwango himself was born in London, where he first embarked on a ballet career with the African Ballet. This was felt by his mother to be undignified. So she persuaded her elder son to introduce his younger brother to wrestling. This he did — and a career was born. But in parallel he followed another career with his musician brother Cyril, playing drums and piano in clubs across London, and winning tap dance and jitterbug competitions. In later years he was to appear in television programmes such as *Love Thy Neighbour*, and even in pop videos.

Over nearly fifty years Kwango wrestled in many countries. He was awarded a chief's stick in Kenya by President Kenyatta, did exhibition bouts before the Duke of Edinburgh, grappled in Zambia and Nigeria (where he beat the local hero Power Mike and had his vehicle overturned in revenge by enraged fans) and bounced on canvases across the Middle East. But Kwango probably made his biggest mark in Britain, where the peak of his career coincided with the growth of commercial television's sports coverage.

He amassed a huge following of fans who watched him on Saturday afternoons, in the company of Mick McManus, Jackie Pallo, Johnny Kincaid and Billy Two Rivers — to name but a few of the legendary heroes of the 1960s and 1970s. He continued to entertain the crowds and discomfit his opponents with his flying "head butt" and incapacitating jaw hold into his late sixties, when he switched to refereeing and training.

Johnny Kwango is survived by two daughters and one son, his wife having predeceased him in 1989.

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When the Sedge Withers And No Birds Sing

RACHEL CARSON: Silent Spring. 304pp. Hamish Hamilton. 25s.

This is not for the squeamish. Rachel Carson proved herself in *The Sea Around Us* and *The Edge of the Sea* to be a biologist who could express her special knowledge in clear, untechnical, imaginative prose. Now, after four and a half years of research, she has declared war on the users of poisonous chemicals. Her declaration stirred America when it was launched there last year and today it reaches Britain. *Silent Spring*, reproducing the American edition (but not, alas, its effective drawings), is introduced to British readers by an introduction from Lord Shackleton and a preface from Sir Julian Huxley. Admirable though these are in pointing out that what has happened across the Atlantic on a mammoth scale has already been experienced over here and could get worse, they were scarcely needed. Rachel Carson needs no sponsors. She is a self-confident controversialist.

Her thesis is that since the mid-1940s more than 200 basic chemicals have been created for use in killing insects, weeds, rodents, and other organisms described in the modern vernacular as "pests", and sold under several thousand brand names.

Thus for the first time in the history of the world every human being is subjected to contact with dangerous chemicals from the moment of conception until death. A new kind of havoc has been created by the reckless exploitation of powers of poison beyond the dreams of the Borgias.

Chemical weedkillers are a "bright new toy ... They work in a spectacular way: they give a giddy sense of power over nature to those who wield them". The toll they take of life has led to people in increasingly large areas of the United States finding that spring comes unheralded by the return of the birds. Beasts and fishes are also victims. Dogs have suddenly sickened, and cats, who so meticulously groom their coats and lick their paws, have been even worse affected.

The root of this evil is exposed by Miss Carson in a cold and challenging paragraph: "The 'control of nature' is a phrase conceived in arrogance, born of the Neanderthal age of biology and philosophy, when it was supposed that nature exists for the convenience of man ... It is our alarming misfortune that so primitive a science has armed itself with the most modern and terrible weapons, and that in turning them against the insects it has also turned them against the earth."

Insects, including the *anopheles* mosquitoes, are showing proof of acquiring resistance to chemicals. But, Miss Carson states, it would take hundreds or even thousands of years for human beings to do the same. Man is exposing himself to the risks of cancer, sterility, and schizophrenia. She is no negative *Cassandra*. She draws attention to alternatives to the chemical attack on insects. Laymen will find in *Silent Spring* a social study, eloquent, sincere — and alarming.

ON THIS DAY

February 14 1963

Silent Spring by Rachel Carson (1907-1964) was a powerful and passionate indictment of the indiscriminate use of pesticides and weed-killers



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ALEXANDER and Sophy are Valentines today! Come 19 March Wedding Bells will play.

ALEXIA The longest distance could never waver my love for you. Forever R.

ALEX My love for you will never die. Like a flame it will burn forever. Please say yes to me???

ALISON Be mine. Tony.

AMANDA mein kleines liebchen. Das leben ist fur mich viel susser geworden, seit wir in London zusammen gewesen sind. Dein Barchen.

AMOR amor Catarina and Candy. The two loves of my life. Love Andy xxx.

ANDREW Tests confirm that too much noodle causes ringing in the ears - J.R. Happy Valentines Day.

ANDREA, Keith loves his cuddley snuggle and misses his night time cuddles.

ANDY Just keep on dropping those C.D's for me N.T.W.

ANGEL - Happiness is sharing laughter in our hearts and understanding small things like Ted and Snowdrops - Dimples.

ANGELA of White Gables. Did your heart leap? Mine does every day. I love you. A.

ANGEL, your gladiator loves you to pieces. P.S. Radar loves lucy too!

ANGELFACE With endless love and everlasting kisssssss!!!! Your devoted Ne-Ne. xxx

ANGEL Goddess, how much better is the love than wine! -P.

ANI Bunny: You're my Honey. Wherever you walk it's ever sunny. Q.

ANNA awake smiles, Anna sleeping is restful. Love is everything Harry

ANNE K. My love is total, our love is wonderful despite turbulence Please be my co-pilot always. John.

ANNE lots of love for your Birthday and Happy Valentine's Day also all our good wishes for a healthier 1994. Robin, Stephanie and Sacha.

ANNE-MARIE Words cannot describe how I feel inside. But once again it's nice to say. Darling I love you more each day. Stan

ANN "Loves labour is not lost. It has just begun. Love David.

ANN-THERESE I love you tender, deep, passionate, true. Exists your love & life with mine. be my Valentine? Christopher.

AQUARIANS need Taureans to fix taxes, PC, car love lights everything. LD

ARS you ready Eddie. call me or else. (Big boobies - not)

A year today you said we could wed. before the fire at the Inn Lochwinnoch, loved you then, now and always. Ped.

B

B. But every time we say hello I die again B.

B.O.L. After all these years with such time. Love me D.C.I

B.W.W. - B.W. and little Georgie. Love you more than Nana Porridge

PENGUIN BOOKS

FOR SOMEONE YOU LOVE

BABYLOU
with every kiss my passion for you burns more fiercely, with every beat of my heart my love for you grows deeper.
Arthur.

BECKS
Thank you for saying 'YES' only 75 years 6 months to go.
Love David.

B. Wednesday. Hope you make it to Anyway. Love you lots. Hen.

BABES I love you. Longing to have you back, love forever Andy.

BABY BOO, I love you. Snell.

BABYSOCKS you are the most beautiful creature on this earth. Love you. My home is in your heart. Bear abroad.

BABY TUCKER let me always rub your back. C.

BARBIEL Last year's Valentine will be hard to beat, but let's try to again and again.. I love you. Robby.

BAGON You have guided my letters and steered a heavenly course. Your love and support make for great happiness. Owl.

BAMBI I am the luckiest man in the world. forever Tegy.

BARBARA - One thousand words could fail where three can do - I love you! - Anthony.

BARBARA No you don't have to go up the hill to lunch, love always your Big Bear.

BASIL You may get to see this in Jackson Hole. Still in love with you after all this time, Cybby.

BAT and Monchkin and Micro Bump. Lots of Valentine love from Sweetpea.

BEAR. Maldives this year. Holiday as Puss or honeymoon as Mrs Bear?

BEARDED CELTIC HIPPY. Fairport was magic, Norfolk Broads will be magic, Israel will be Hot! and magic, and best of all I think you're magic. With Lots of Love 'Size 7 D M Boots' and 'Big Jugs' xxx.

BEARSEY BEAR loves Snicketsy Snacksley Snoke ... I love you, yes I do. Bearsins Bear, nod nod.

BEAR you're my sunshine and I can't get enough of you. Puss.

BEATRICE. £17.63 and a box of Choc cannot convey how much I.

BECTA Sorority People Possum we must do it more often. Promise me.

BELLA How about this for a start. It gets better and better. I.L.Y.I. Say it. Charlie.

BELLES JAMBES Still the best legs in Europe, love you always. Protector.

BE MINE Forever, Big Moose, No12, Fantasies of No.48. Your Trader Eternal.

BERTIES TDI Mum remember Osmotman will always love you. Love springs eternal.

BERYL Hope you see this. It's the only one I have ever sent. Ron.

BESOTTED by beautiful bumps bedecked by bountiful brimming heaking black bodice. Quinqua.

BEVRLY: 22 clumsy and shy, I went to London and I fell drunkenly in a night club, into the arms of the I love, and that was two years ago!

BIBSY, Love is the gravity that keeps me orbiting around you, Moon.

BIG Boy Bayes, always on my mind,forever in my heart. Joanna.

BIG COUSIN to Little Cousin. I love you to bits. Happy Valentine

BILLY Happy Valentines Day and much love from your Wally. Take care.

BINDLE Bottom Love you lots Woogie Bear and beattie do too Tuebell!

BIRTHE with the dark times ever a new future together. You are my love. Dick.

BLADE Much ado about nothing or could it be more? Love J.

BLAU Bumble. Be my valentine forever. I will always love you.

BLUEBELL always in my thoughts, Lots of love to you from Snoopy.

BOBBIE is a lovely lady that's a cert I don't mean maybe, for 9 years she's driven me crazy but then I'm sure it's mutual. Bruce.

BOBBIE Thought it was perfect but it gets better each day. Geoff.

BOBBLES ROBBSON. Today, tomorrow always and forever. I am yours. Creep.

BOBBY Hope the greenhouse will be warmer soon. Love you lots and lots and lots Petal.

BOBBY, Elongerd memories will endure forever. Love you always. Tomtom.

BOB You fill my life with joy: I hold you ever dearest.

BOOGLE, Run to me for I am your only personal heat. Bubbles.

BOOGY
Wasn't sure what she was supposed to do with the burst balloon and the empty honeypot, but Eeyore thought this was a Grand day out!
PS. You and the non-friend can find it in the bookshelf next to Bilbo Baggins!

BONGLE I have the Heaven's embroidered cloths for you here spread them beneath my feet. Raine

BOO BOO BEE DOO Thank you for your love and our hug! Love you forever.

BOYFRIEND I love you today and always. Are we going out tonight? Your mental Bromley bird xxx.

BRAINFLAKE, I want to see you earing your wicker hat! Then I shall remove it. Lovingly, Gooseberry.

BRIAR. The Gunners may have lost but you're a winner every time. Fran.

BRIAR. How do I love thee? All wiors and for ever, Sally.

BRIEFLET: The BB's on his feet again thanks to your Love. Clerk to your Chamber's Always.

BUG Happy 30th Birthday. Look to the sky for your present! Love you lots Lady Bug

C

C.H.U.D.S. if all the world should disappear and leave us all alone I would never worry, never fear, for you are my life, my love, my home. Thank you for 36 wonderful years - Lots to France.

CHUMZIE To Love you now is as I always have and will forever more....Mark.

CINDERS Playing bridge again but the trouble is I really miss my partner Kermit the Dummy.

CLAIRE BEAR Bedford Belle again, love you dish cadre, One Tan Rootie.

CLAIRE frog legs good, toad legs better - I tried. Hived... Love, always G xxx.

CLAIRE Blackburn, London 1965! You lovely woman, you're still pilot - in - command of my heart and thoughts. Always, everywhere. Freddie.

CLARKEY: All my love to you this year as every year. Steph.

CMH I Love you mind body and soul. Love you gorgeous - Clive.

1987 Colchester District Cube winning goal scorer! I Love You. Mrs S.C.P.M.

COLETTE w/t and wag from BR2 loves you through and through. Clive.

COLIN My soul mate. love you always. For ever and a day. Dog Ears.

CONSERVATIVE Catford chap loves Handel, bees and petargonums. Sue loves him.

CONSULTANT - To Snowy. Outlook hazy but successful, clear and bright - still hopeful of second D.

CORNISH REP My quarter standard for love is not measurable it has no boundaries. You are and will always be the love of my life. Irish Rep.

COTTONTAIL Roses are Red, Violets are Blue, Thank Heavens I've got you. Your ever loving Bunny.

CUDDLESOME love you forever, Bonne Santee.

CUPCAKES! Of all the tracks in all the towns in all the (third) world. I found yours. Just call me 'lucky!!! Loves 'n hugs. Cupcake xxxx

CURRENT ACCOUNT is forty years overdrawn this year. All my love.

CYNTHIA Sugar is sweet and so are you, your present you'll find behind something you wind. Love you lots, Nanula.

CHOC ICE
Come melt within my touch
for love that means so much.
Reach out your little hand
for love from distant land.
Stone Man XXXXXXX

Chrissy.
The Morning Star's so much for Thee
Her radiance dimmed by your greater beauty.
Outshone by so star, she dominates the Heavens
Fading only as the new dawn beckons.
In the Heavens of my life, Sweet Chrissy, My Love,
You are that star, shining forever above.
David.

CHRISTINE
My Sweet Valentine, I will always love you, David.

D

D. D. IAN If may be the first - it won't be the last. Love you always D.D.D.

D. Love is not love that alters when it alteration finds. Love D. (and William)

D.S.S. Sweetheart, all I ask is this - a kiss to build a dream on. Love Alexa.

DARLINGEST Sweetness, the most huggables darlingest wife this side of Mars, all my love H.H.

DARLING Swinger As father of your boy who may be gawped at, don't call me Bugsy, your loving Bumber.

DARLING P. to see the world in a grain of sand and heaven in a wild flower. Be with me. I love you. DG.

DARLING John, You're sensational Barry was heaven, Rio is waiting for us, Love you deeply D.

DARLING Mel the Maiden. Who will bowl me over in Barbados at the Fourth Test. All my love A. K.

DARLING Jinny, soon to be my Valentine forever. Yours Stevieposs.

DARLING Little Study Bunny Love you. Lots of hops Big Bunny xxxx

DARLING Dani, stay as you are (as I love you bundles) Simon xxxx

DARLING Wicket, Be my Valentine and our Test Match will be special.

DARLING Poppett. Missing you. All my love to you always. Sos xxx

DARLING Rob always your woman through time and space love Mary Tudor.

DARLING LESLEY all my love to you on Valentines day and forever. Alan

DARLING The roar of a lion tells his pride, love Leo.

DARLING beautiful golden lioness. All my love P.O.

DARLING F. Love you always. Bundeswein.

DARLING G. You Are To Me What I am To Thee. Excelsior.

DARREN R. You're still my No 1 dream man!! Love You're sexy secret admirer!!!???

DARYL roses are red violets are blue lilies been great since I laid eyes on you. SAM.

DAVID The meaning of living is mastering the art of waiting. Jackie

DAVID, A wonderful first year I love you now and forever Donald's Landlady xx.

DAVID I love you and want you. I can't wait 'til Thursday. signed Pizza Girl.

DAVID I will always love you and I will always wait you.

DAVIES So near but yet so far, and loved so very deeply. Kate Bush. Not.

DAWN FRENCH All the Valentines cards in the world cannot say how much you mean to me. Love x.

DAWN you've changed my life in the most wonderful way. I love you so dearly and will be yours forever. Happy valentines. Chris G.

DEE Keep the Lily Pad moist. love from King Frog.

DO My reluctance is but caution. I do care. Please respond. R xxx

DEAR CRISP Do you cut? Sgt Silbo

DEAREST Macida you were my lover yesterday. You are my lover today. You will also be my lover tomorrow. With love Albert.

DEAREST Pig Face our green shoots desire to blossom. Let us get back to basics please be my valentine. Your ever loving Claudius Rex.

DEAREST Julie I Love you with all my heart and always will you mean everything to me my Valentine Love Shrimp.

DEAREST Em, Still feeling stops coming on. Kermie xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

DEAREST Dog Breath guess what? I love you. P.K.

DEAREST Scanner. I love you Kathy xxx

DEAR Fran, you will always be my Magic Kingdom. Love Brian.

DEAR fran you will always be my magic kingdom. Love Brian.

DEAR Lisa. Still loving you helplessly and hopelessly. Mike.

DEAR Pete Happy Valentine's Day. All my love Sarah xxx

DEAR slap head, wash your hair. I love you, rassle head.

DEAR Tetts. Roses are red. Violets are blue, If I had one day left I'd spend it with with you. Olivera.

DEBBIE I had faith and found your love. You will have my love forever. Alan.

DEBS I are the light and feel the pain. Please believe in my love. Chris.

DEPUTY Babs not even brother Cadfael could deduce your next monastry! Near my Dudley Hertfordian I hope love Blake.

DEREK. My love, my friend, (my precious). I'm so proud of you and I love very much. Julie xxx

DIANA Heatrose. You bring me joy you bring me love you make me laugh now darling play me.

DI and Veronica. The reception you gave us is truely classified. Love Simon, Cody and Chris.

DIANE What began with marmalade offerings now relish our jucier proferrings. Jeffers.

DIDDLY WUMPS Be my Valentine and I will always fetch your slippers, love Woofer.

DINOSAUR I love you. The Mouse, Gonk, Barney and Charlie.

DISTRACTION You make me the happiest ever. thanks for N.T.F. Love Trouble

DISTRICT NURSE Sue Davis. the Cheetah loves the Whitehouse O.J Davis.

DIZZY DOG Darling little sausage your big sausage loves you lots and lots. From a huggable special friend.

DODGE you add spice to my life - loads of love Tina.

DOLLY DIMPLE I love you more than yesterday but less than tomorrow.

DOT. Thanks to you I understand the Happiness Love brings. Les.

DR 'D' You are Adam but I'm adamant that you're the one for me. Look around you my geriatric Valentine. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

DR SNEAKY I'm too busy thinkin' about my baby, I ain't got time for nothin' else. All my love, Diddy.

DR TIGER. Please care for me until I'm elderly. Much love Jeremy.

DS All my love. The most unromantic wife in the world. SS.

EFFIE. Life is so exciting again. We've perfect and I love you..Jolly xxx

E in Cary it E.

EILEEN I love you. Thanks for our lovely baby boy. Lets hope for an undisturbed night.

ELAINE Remember what happened the last time we went skiing! Love Stanley.

ELEMENTARY it isn't. But under this stone you'll find a gem. Scottie.

ELIZABETH Last year was our best year, but this year will be better still. I'm going to love you for all our years together. Michael.

ELIZABETH Boobs all my love always and beyond. Love Roger xxxxx.

ELISON Sarags Finito - Hurrah! Now enjoy ourselves in NZ. Seeyather. Love Mountainmagic.

ELVIRA darling, your music is the Sounds of our love, your Bow the Andantina of our Heartstrings. Michael.

EMANUELLA SIAVARRA - Though far apart, always close to my heart. Your Valentine.

EmBEC Delicious Cruelty Adored Uncle Lace Warm Embrace. Date Time Place?

EMMA, J'attendrai, le nuit et le jour. J'attendrai ton retour.

ERMA is looking forward to seeing her mum and wants it to be sooner than later.

ERMA I will always be with you because you are my heart and soul. Love Warren.

ERMA ("Lucie Red Rotten Hood") Cut your shakes on before it's too late.

ERNNYBELLE I love you more than life itself. I will be yours forever. believe me! See you tonight, you poor thatsed Love Park Camp.

ERRERICALLY yours, dearest Rosel

ERIN You're always in my heart and my mind. Love Olly x.

EVANS above. Hope you're spoilt rotten today. I'd like to spoil you soon. S.E.

EVE - All my love, as always, to all ways, for always. Steve.

EVELYN. "All-the-sevens" come May, But still strongest each Valentines Day. Valentines! Here's your sixteenth one. With special love and thanks from John. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

EVELYN Velveteen Rabbit made real by love, real you made me, love you my love. Gordon. xxxxxxxxxx

G

GARY
Remember 22nd of May
it really made my Day!
LOVE BEV.

GLADYS
Even when it's raining you bring me sunshine.
Love you always.
M

G.B. Seriously wish you could cuddle me. Always yours. love M.D.

G. Special R.W.A. Our 4th year. I'll always be there for you. Luv you lots. Special R.W. xxxxxxx

GABRIEL My Guardian Angel.... now and always lots of love Peach.

G - Bring your rubber duckl Love you lots - T.

GEOFF You're mine. I'm yours. that's how it must be. You are locked in my heart. the key is lost, stay there forever. Mary.

GEORGE - Nearly four years together and we get closer and closer. Love you very much, thanks for your support and caring, especially now - Richard.

GEORGINA From Paris to Hawaii and the South China Seas my love for you knows no boundary. Forever yours, Andrew.

GEORGIE love always Barnsley.

GERALDINE You'll need a posh frock, your weekend case and a day off on Friday. The rest will be a surprise. Grahame.

GIGI The foul disgusting creature not of England who creeps into your bed each night loves you very deeply and always will. Your secret admirer xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

GILLYFLOWER, leicster, peister, seistra, gilbstra, selevor, silvver, gilsfer, lovGsora, geraviour, be my Valentine!

GIRTOOSS Round Ess'ole Cubby Woodsy' COSSY HOYPUWH love you forever. guess who?

GLADEYES So deep and blue for fifty years. I've loved you true. Les.

GLYNIS I am what I am, you are what you are, together we are IYOU? YOU? UYO?

GOOF: with all our love and thanks for everything. Tumi and Paul.

GORGEOUS - You are always welcome to give my bones a tweak - yours osteopathically. Charlie.

GORGEOUS. Love you now, love you always, from your devoted Gorgeous.

GORGEOUSEST rat in the wholest widest world. love you to spiidges! Mouse.

GOURI Love you Always UNC.

GRAHAM You are simply the best! from Your private dancer.

GRANS, Be my Valentine, OXO.

GRASSHOPPER We're rare today...not the same as 29 years! Your Stepson.

GRIZZLY BEAR, 1994 will be our Perfect Year. "Please" "Please". Love Pest.

GRUESY Another year has passed and the loving continues. Always yours Mr Grubby.

GRUGGENGLY Rumpsy I've paid for this verse but it will be worth it when we get perverse.

GUG You are the beauty in my life. I Love you! Sati.

GWENNIE GWENELA I love you so much you've made me so very happy. Love you always My Les.

H

HER *name may mean faith in Czechoslovak but her initials spelt in Morse in 1944 meant victory in Henri.*

H.S.C. Music cannot forego high. Come to my Mashah. Luv U. DCAG.

H.L.A. Sweetest kiss, prettiest smile. Like Dawn breaking over summer nature's dew. Like summer's zephyr's warming to the touch. I Love You, John.

H. I Love You. S.

H. Our marriage in Heaven is not a sin our earthly bodie our love will win. C.

HAPPY Valentine Mr Man smoker ! Lots of love Fatty and Toad. xxxxx

HAPPY BIRTHDAY you loser. Luv ya a spaniel style. Big Arms.

HEAD BEAR - Please come to my picnic in the woods. Love Biggie.

HEATHER and Lizzie. Love you lots. Be our Valentine, Daddy and Harry.

HECK PADDS, now the world knows how I Love You. So There!

HEFFALUMP We all love you. Christopher Robin, Pooh Bear, Piglet and Eeyore.

I

I ♥
my kitten love from Thomas the Tank engine and all the chuffing little engines.

IAN Darling, Jay and Love are yours forever and beyond. Babybear.

IAN Maybe you still don't know why you are special - it probably doesn't help that I can't explain! I love you very much, more today than y.....y! Take care. DI XOXOXOXOX

IAN T.A.P. G+T! Stone the bus another wind up? D. X.

I'D like it, I may, put 'A' in a special way, before all the "B's" in my life today.

IF love was a Mandelian cadence, you'd be my chomp cheese, Me.

I'LL miss your cheerful morning smiles over the papers, mugs and flies, oh how I wish that you could be, always sitting next to me! Hugs & Kisses D.C.

I Love You so twits always with you, you're strong as magic as snowy blossoms in summer my love.

I love you gorgeous Maureen Mills now and forever. James the Bottle.

III which way do I love you darling, a witchcraft would be better.

IISSY As years go past my love will last. Forever your Wally.

IISSY - Truely madly deeply. I love you - Mad Tom.

007 it's not just your osteocostic emissions that turn me on. 319

IT'S the things you do, the words you say that makes me give you more each day. So will you share your heart with mine and forever be my Valentine. Andy.

IVY Love forever and always Max. xxx

J

JANE.
To my 'Angel of Harlow'.
'I still hadn't found what I was looking for' until I met you.
You make me 'numb' in a 'Mysterious Way'.
'In the name of love' 'All I want is you'.
IAN.

JAS Thanks to Saturday Rendezvous you're the light of my life.
David.

J.A.B. Cornflowers, laughter, penguins, talking, Mahler, learning, picnics & purple cows! You make life special. Isobaage.

J.N.E. After twenty nine years, Stasia still loves Suff with the blue eyes.

J. Oh East is cursed and West is worse but sometimes the twain shall meet! G.

J. Years pass but memories of sleepy days remain. No regrets. M.

JACK in Alver. Devotion Honours. Emotions pass. study for love. Graduate. Candide.

JACKY HALL You entered my heart while still attending school, two children later we're ten years July. I'll love you forever, never goodbye. (Debby).

JACOBS 4,000 miles away but closer than ever. Love and kisses from your fiancé.

JA I will always wait for you, all my love AX.

JAMES DEAR - You are invited to one of my Candlelit Suppers. Love you lots. Love Mrs Bouquet (pickle) xxxx

JAMES You and me and me and you. Diesel.

JANE. You make the days of drudgery worthwhile. Love you. Wilbur A.

JANE If you were me and I were you I'd be lookin' myself with love . John.

JANE KENNELLY lost at Morgan require non finger pickling wife. Will you oblige? Love Glen (ACCA)

K

KAMILLA, *after ten years I love you more than ever. Please marry me and have my baby(ies!). AD.*

K.B.E. With skin so fair and a smile so sweet how could I love anyone but you! D.C.T.

K.D. We enjoyed each other's company. Kindred spirits perhaps? Have been hoping I might have heard that you wish to improve my mind. P.

K.P. In a universe of ambiguity I will always Love You.

K. Was it the glancing shyness and circumflex of her limbs that fell my gaze? Your Fox always.

KAREN I remember stealing at the bus stop. forever yours Steve.

KATE. From Beaumaris to Barnsdale I could not love you more. David.

KATH All my love for your total support during the exams. Ben.

JANET Still my Valentine Remember Simpsons and Paris? Love as always Ray.

JANET, the reason, inspiration, the meanings, my belief in life - the magic still remains.

JANEY, gris it and rib it. Love Dan

JANIE You are the centre of my life, please believe me. Johnnie

JANNIE, my wife, my lover, my best friend. I adore you. Richard.

JAN 69 "You know how much it's worth, cause I'm still carrying a torch."

JEAN....your mouth: a soft kiss would say it all. love Robert.

JEAN Happy Valentine my darling. Come and live with me please. All my love. Your Clown.

JEANNIE of Hookmert. Je t'adore more than ever, even after 24 years, your John.

JEAN True love and friendship blend 42 years into a moment. David.

JEFFERS H. Do you remember the Sun shine days? I know you remember them well!!!! D.N.

JELLEY BEAN 4th Sept. 1993 (BROMLEY) - I love you 1000 times over. Princess Sarah xx

JELLY BEARS. Not long now until Annabels is born. Gosh, might be a Boy! Love you Tess and always will. Skiing next year? Flyball.

JENNIFA Paddleduck I still Love having you in my pool even after 5 years. Percy Penguin.

JENNIFER LEE. Happy Valentines Day to an amazing Wife and Mother. Love Graham, Joseph and Gregory.

JENNIFER - Nearly eight years from the heat and the dust have our spirits rush'd together. for ever yours John.

JENNY A fox will always love a moose. Now we have an offspring my love for you is even stronger. David

JENNY BUDD Happy Valentine's Day. I love you lots. Sheila Moosh.

JENNY Me table u chadra, pas Kojak u hairs, me bellybutton is Dolf, me have the pasta stuff.

JENNY You make me happy, lots of love James.

JENNY Love you always. Hoppalong.

JEPH - Whats the plan?? Lots more of the same I hope, it goes on getting better and I love it S.

JERRY Darling, To the sweetest, kindest, smartest man I've ever met - I count my lucky stars every day. C.

JERSEY GIRL Thanks for the best years of my life, love John.

JESSE my shoes were red your suit was blue take me to MEXICO. I love you.

JILL G Fancy loving in our oyster round the world? Here's hoping.

JILL, if Paradise is half as nice - let's go back! Brian of Nazareth.

JIM BRIMSLOW a dream come true is to wake up with you in my life each day.

JIM Love you lots. Happy Anniversary for Wednesday. love Alison. xxx

JISS You are our life, my love stay mine Xxxyer M.O.

JMW I loved you our very exciting year. Come unparalleled pregnancy in pregnancy.

JOAN Fifteen years of Times Valentines.... How else to say I love you very much.

JOANNE With a wobble and a wibble you always make giggle. Love you forever Alexis.

JO-ANNE Wanted world to know my love for you. Does now, Andrew.

JOANNE, the girl who sends the sunshine into my life, my love.

JOHN COOPER To a very dear Dad - see you at the weekend. With much love from your darling daughter.

JOHN I Love you more than words can say. Loving you Carol.

JOHN I Love You. Marry Me! Gem. xxxxxxxxxx

JOHNNY You're the ying to my yang and the yang to my ying. Lords of love xxxxx

JOHNNIE SCALES My love for you is forever. Bobbles. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

JOHN P.O. Love want need you. Missing you like crazy. Can't wait until we are re-united. Love you until the day after. Your Dirl.

JO I love you more than words can say. love Porky xxxxxxxx

JO JO, Laura, Jane, Julia, Sarah, Mandi, Kate, Val and Zoe don't forget to kick me out of bed on time in future. there would I be without your Yeungee. sexier and richer probably! Thanks for everything (and that includes the boys). Ric.

JOLLY Green Giant alas snogl The emotionally enriched chronologically challenge bovine BAAAAAA!

JONATHAN ENDERBY My favourite cuddly teddy bear with love from an Admirer.

JS. In these our secret love will flower with a beauty to match your own. Bandsfield.

JS Be good in Norway, marry me this year. Love always DO.

JULIEMA my wife when are you going to bear those made boobs? I love you.

JULIA. Exquisite, sublimely completely lost on you. LYTB. Underwood? Hooray. Adam Who?

JULIA LIPTON: Thanks for sticking by me love you lots Julian xxxx.

JULIA My Love forever be, my love forever is with thee.

JULIE NEEDS Happy Valentine. Ten years on and we are still inseparable. I love you, Simon

JUNE. The Czech is in the post. Your passionate Slovak.

JUNE, Juan, Juan, Juan I still loves you. Happy Valentine Day, Don.

JUNE - Weekend in Paris without children our love deserves the jetse. Bry.

JUNE - What's sherbet fountain in Wash? Can possibly supply one if required.

KATHY, Thank you for the best years of my life. Days are better just knowing you are there. LAA.

KATRINA Am long on love but short your company. Buy the spread.

KAY HILL Will you be our Valentine Today and Always. Love Terry. Sadie and Tiger xxxxxx.

KAY - Paint plaster walls doors showers knobs knocker's plaster lights carpet wallpaper. Marble man where are you? Wanted to hotel still love you. Spider.

KAY - We have our ups and downs but I will always love you - David x

KELLOGS What is it about you that no one else has that makes me love you so inchein and for ever.

KILLER Off plate our love is guaranteed, here's to many more years, love Cannibal.

KIM Kim Kim soon to be three times a Lady! Love Alan Adam Max and Me.

KITTEN Never have any doubts. Darling. I will always be yours. With all my heart and soul. Love Viking.

KITTEN - imagine ten ale one of love endlessly. That's me MLF Jopp

KITTY Castle misses you. Love you lots, cannot live without you. Sweetie.

KNIH Honey The Belles Of Saint Mary's hold no fascination. Love and need only you. Quasimodo

L

L.K.R.
Despots who reply to Saturday Rendezvous deserve special attention.
I'm glad you did!!
Lots of love. V.J.S

LAURA D I'm not too good with poems or verse so I'll just say I love you to infinity in fact always yours! Big T.

LIZ
My love for you grows and you continue to move me.
Eppur si muove.

L.G.B. Ten years of constant change and constant love. Your own N.B.

LADY in Red, I'm amidst the love of my life and my best friend. Lost in your eyes, here we are, I love you forever and a day. Precious.

LADY JANE Fly round and round, get in by beaver to the round. I cannot see that it is you unless you wink a light or two. NMM. Nice Bees.

LADY PENELOPE, I love you more than beer. Chauffeur you around the world forever? Snog on the back seat? Yes please m'lady. Parker.

LAMBIE Love forever and a day. Tum Tum Tum Tum Lamb.

LARGE ONE. Listen. Stay very close. Foxy.

LARRAINE (I put the light and) Happy Valentine's Day.

LASER 142405 loves you very much and is looking forward to many seasons to come. Masters rule OK!

LESLEY: The more I live the more I can't live without you. Love you for so many reasons in so many ways. Much Two.

LESLEY Arlene Mary too lots of love to all of you. As cute in Mrs desert. Beam Geats.

LESLEY McFADYEN says hello too. Colin.

LEF give us a snog you gorgeous Scottish Pudding! All my love Tommy Boy. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

LIBRARY LADY Write our love notes, past, present, future, always.

LITTLE white Nova loves the sleek lines of a beautiful Oxford B.M.W.

LILIA La Luz de Las Vidas de tu rey. Geoff Y Fray.

LILYBET, Ma Belle Petite. Je T'aime si beaucoup, et Toujours. Paterika.

LINDA: Neal Valentines day dates with is London. We'll spend our days in shops, evenings in theatres and restaurants. ANWY WWDP BAM. Love me.

LINDA, Linda, who hugged each note we see the universe in that you wrote. Now you're riding high and true, good luck to you and Emmylou.

LINDA Margaret. Words say everything. These say. Love you deeply Lindy. xxxxxx.

LINDSAY 23 years of love from the real John.

LISA I miss you more today than ever, xxxxx chocolate. love Chubby.

LISA, Show me how you do that trick, the one that makes me smile - and I'll run away with you - The Duke of Hessel.

LITTLE POPPET Happy Val. love you always. Jessie and your elderley gentlemen.

LIZZIE Being with you the nights are longer the days shorter you're really super actually. B.V.

LOBELIA Do I Love You? Does one and one make two? Bps.

LONG LEGGED, luscious lipped, baby, loveable, Lisa - I love your neck.

LOSS May your Skoda wrap up my clapped out Lada.

LOGBAR of gold'fil. Your luck will change. Mot.

LORNA Five spirits and lost causes can always be found in Paris. love Tim.

LORRAINE Never lose sight of how much you mean to me. I love you Richard.

LOTS of love and purrs, to a black-furred gentleman cat from an auburn-furred lady cat.

LOTS of love to the Wizz from the Tets and Mr. Wigg.

LOVE and hugsies with J.P. and Arthur FUZZOYZ on the first day.

LOVE to Lindy, my lady of the Misters, from her chronologically challenged Casanova.

LOVE you lots precious Lorna's mum. Please be my Valentine Father's Dad.

LOVE you always L.

LUCY KINGHAM I have fallen in love with you, your beauty, intelligence, vivacity and wit. May I take you out to dinner this week? Carl

KAMILLA
142 YO!
MTV RAPS
ALL MY LOVE
IS YOURS JFP.

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GIVENCHY

DUCKLING: The hours we spend together wrangled closely heart to heart are a million times more precious than the days we are apart xxx

DUDU'S: I love you now, and always will Love André.

E

E. Beloved, when thou do'st cry and I take your tears upon my lips I enter into paradise E.

E.D. No Crystal (rock not Hotel) could ever be as clear and convincing and magical and mysterious as my beloved E. D.C.

E. Never have. Never will love anyone so much.

EFFIE darling. We love you more than we can say. your boys Sean & P.T.

F

FRANCES
The Girl who stole my Heart and Soul, My love shall show no end. And hope one day you'll Love me too, As now you call me FRIEND.

F. I am enjoying every minute of being in Love with you.

F.S. - How beautiful we are together: Follow the light within your heart: All will be well. Love you, Jacqui

FANATIC Life cat - ever failing in to fun with you around. Love Mr SALSA.

FARLEY I W U ever you need some serious shouting you know where I am. Love you.

FARQUHARSON take you drive the crazy but I love you. Marry me? Love. Liz xxx

FELICIA We all love you. Happy Valentine.

FERLAND TIGER! Africa awaits us! It'll be worth the effort. Love from The Gofrich.

FERIT I love you more than ever your HH XOOOOOO.

FI-FI Say You Do for old Salop to the Best Necessity Scratch.

FIONA Love and sleepless nights forever from me and our little Angel.

H

E

F

H

I

J

K

L

VALENTINE'S

L

LUCY. I've always wanted a Valentine and to be able to have you as my wife is a dream come true. David.

LUCY. The distance may be great, but the future is near. Our love is everlasting. Stony.

LUCY The light of my life. Happy Anniversary. Love you lots - Justin.

LUKE, My sensual lover, your Goddess waits in the temple of love, dreaming of your gentle touch, your tender kiss, your passionate sin.

LYN I love you more than ever, forever yours. Ray.

LYN, my Snow Queen: Would you have me care for you? H.

LYNNE LOSLEY Happy Valentine Day. Lots of love from Jim.

LYNN our love grows deeper England is our townfoot. Love you Mizzl.

LYS The whole world reads this newspaper so the whole world knows I love you. Always your Grey Haired Mariner.

M

M.B.
You horny old dog! My heart is yours forever.
xxx
W.S.

MASTER,
Gasping good looks is, well, delectable but you are indeed the one my mother warned me about.
She warned me how difficult it would be to find you
Thankyou for a wonderful 6 months Sir,
I will be on my knees for as long as you allow
SELVA

MY DARLING PUSHY
You joined our hearts in December now looking forward to September.
LOVE RICHARD.

MY DEAREST NICKIE. I WILL KEEP ON LOVING YOU EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME. BRIAN

M. Always be my Valentine. Need and love you forever. All my love, your D.

M.L.T.S. Dreams shared between you and me will all come true, you will see. I will Love you forever my dearest heart. D.

M, Wife, Lover, Mother, Linguist, Architect and light of my life. A.

MACDONALD. Dina LYTB on Valentines Day, every day, every year, always, ditto.

"MADAM CHAIRMAN" - Though clouds may scud & mountains shine, I'll love you 'til the end of time - even at St. Tiggywinks.

MAD Crazy about you! Wickypoo the drunk.

MANILLA ENVELOPE has you inside and after August with your help.

MANTAGU SWAN We are friends for life, my heart is yours. David.

MARCUS AURELIUS, always my sweet sexy Mr L. Toadle, from your Shaz

MARGARET I love you, let's always be together sharing one another. Dave.

MARGARET - All my Love for another Twenty Five Years.

MARGE POP I love you, I adore you and the Daily Mirror missed a scoop. Monty

MARGOT: GGM GGM GG GG GGM. There is no better. Jim.

MARIA the girl that I adore, and butch she'll stay forever more. Happy Valentine's Day, Love Nick.

MARIA. Won't die not seeing you: won't live much either. Love Bernie.

MARIE. S. Even apart it will always be ever (for) and always. T.S.

MARION. As Birthdays come and go more special you become. Ian.

MARION: 1993's over, a new year's begun. I love you always so please be my Valentine: K.

MARMITE Darling another year and I Love you more each passing second. Everlasting Love - Hupples (Senior).

MARTHA You are our special Valentine. We love you very much. Baarbel and Bob.

MARTINA. A glance across the dancefloor united our two worlds - a Love that's grown as time has flown enriched by our two girls - Forever and Ever Tony.

MARTIN PHILLIPS Love on Valentines Day, lots of hugs. Claire xx

MARTIN. Darling Honey - pig. Be my Valentine truffle? All my love. Piglet.

MARTIN Please wait for me. Whatever it takes we'll make it together.

MARTIN Get it sorted, trust me I love you. Martine xxxx

MARY. You mean more to me than even my crossword. (I think) Love you Always. John.

MARY, Oh Mary, Maid of Buttermere, you can blow out the candle but you can't blow out the fire.

MAUREEN - 1 and only favourite lady with all my love B.

MEI - Li, My love for eternity. My torture for all time. Release me with the truth its in your heart. Your big man

MELLORS - Still interested? Your Lady looks forward to the Flat. xxxx.

MERMAID. Atlantis beckons. Swim with me to this Paradise we'll find together. Love you forever Bear.

ME The next 50 will be even better. Me.

MICHAEL COLEMAN How do you say "Let's have a Guinness" in Old Norse? Let me know the answer and the pint's on me. Byeee!

MICHAEL Always in my thoughts forever in my heart. Much love P.Q.

MIFFIE MOFFIE: Hearts and flowers are sentimental, you'd prefer something dental. LSP.

MIKE. The youthful glow may fade but love burns on in our hearts. Kate x x x.

MIKE - I love you very much but I'll never be good at the slushy bits - L.

MIKE TUPPER What have you done to your hair? I thought you were in between styles, from the one you keep letting down xxx.

MIKE You are our number 1 Wasp, so why don't you we sting you for lunch. D.& V.

MILNE Cannot wait for the roses, chocolates, candlelight dinner and romantic words. But expect I shall have to. S xx

MISIA Darling: Complete the incomplete perfect the imperfect: with me forever entwine for I am your Columbine. J. The J.

MISS BUSSY The Boo-Boo Thanks for wonderful life & beautiful Boolets - Big Brewfish.

MISS BLANDISH No orchids this year but as always my love R.

MISS B. Glad the Rover stopped. Love you lots and lots. P.

MISS MUNN, you're sensational, never change except your name to mine. G.

MJA or MJB/ it doesn't matter which to me, so long as you're my baby, love H.

MOBZ Pobbob loves you all the whole wide world. Hugs and Kisses.

MOLE: I still have a Mole. Do you still play cricket? John.

MOLE Love you very very much. Mozette. Sasha Olga badge Ed.

MOLE We Love You, Mr Mole, Tom Mole, Ben Mole and Edberg.

MOLEY I see you more clearly now than ever before more beautiful and I love you even more. Paul.

MOLEY: How did I live before I had your love keeping me safe and warm - Kransie.

MOLLY Let my love mend your heart to beat in time with mine and in some future "Times" we'll sup to life with wine.

MOON FACE loves Baby Dumplings and Smelly.

MOOSE Hug me and kiss me, and be my creature comfort! Hippo.

MORAG - It's cold dark and lonely. Things desperate. Please send Chocolate.

MORE constant than Cornflake Girl? Your forbidden fruit will always love you!

MOUSIE. Still glad I fell into your trap. All my love M.

MRS BEAR Although I may fit in a hen house the owl house I think is too small. Love Ed.

MRS FOX - You are the only one who keeps me going. Let's go back to the Savoy. All my love JB.

MRS LANE Lots of love from us all. The Nook Sotties.

MRS O Love you forever, Biggy.

MRS VINCE, Happy to be a first Valentine! Love Andrew.

MR UGLY, Mrs Ugly will always love you! Let's run away together. x

MS SHERRETT Have a fun day. Thanks for the Frenchy. K.P.

M - Thankyou for a brilliant 20 months! - I love you H.

M Thank you for coming into my life. I love you. J

MUFFET: I Love you always more and more. Barkie.

MUMMY Will you be our Valentine now and forever, from William Monkey and Daddy.

MUMMY Jean Margaret still dinghies and ocean going liners. Love you always. Harold et al.

MUNCHKIE You may be a pest but I think you're the best, love Snoop.

MUSHMUSHI The days last for weeks. The hours pass in minutes. Snapdragon.

MUSHIE Love you now more than ever. Hugs, snuggles and kisses. Keef.

MUSTAFA Fed up with Roberto. Come back soon! I. L. Y. Sheila. xxxx.

MY A.P.B. and Triple L. lots of it even with fusilli, although prefer penne. Guess who.

MY darling Lucy, thanks for being such a wonderful wife. Love Neil.

MY Darling Sara, I love you more than words can say - forever and a day. x

MY Darling little boy I Love You always with love, from Deutschland.

MY Darling Ann. Simply the best! I'll love you forever. All my love. xxxxx

MY Darling Brumus I will try again. will you be my Valentine, love you G.W.

MY Darling Abigail - two down, lots to go. Love always, David. xxxx

MY darling Mary, I will always love you, Paul.

MY Dear Party Knickers - "W" Willy will love you forever.

MY hero (Tonbridge). True love is worth waiting for. Yours forever, Organ Lover (Cambridge).

MY Lady, I still love you. Your humble servant.

MY Little EY. I adore you and need you and want you more with the passing of each day. You're wonderful! Signed Jimmy Jim.

MY lovely plump partner, love you lots and you know the rest. S. xxxx

MY love Never forget what you mean to me always yum yum.

N

NICOLA
All my love darling for this and many years to come.
Love Danny
Woof woof from Motty and Mooch.
xx

NANCY Looking forwar to Bahrain, our chocolate liquer our coming to-gether.

NANNY, you are the greatest. The boys and I love you. Grillo.

NASI Gorang. Mulberry trees. Odile.

NICOLA (Sweetie). We're great seas apart, but not for long. Love you lots. Lacroix.

NIGEL On this Valentines Day, I've one thing to say - jump in your Granada and "Get here" that way. A.M.B.

NIKKI Loves you loads lots heaps... more each day. Love Steve xxxxxx

NIKKI: The sun for us will always shine if you'll be my Valentine. L.

NOODLE What fun, lasting friendship, love and true happiness we have together. Love you dearly my darling. Chipmunk.

NOT so easy this time Snuggle Bug! Love for ever, pickle, sausage, and Mr B.

NTB Thank-you for letting me sing my song. Down with cancer, long live life. I love you Orti

NUNC Scio quid sit Amor. to see BC to BB David.

JOHN
Prove to me that you love me. Take me to the ultimate romantic opera tonight
CHERUBIN
Book our tickets on 071 240 1066 and meet me in the Royal Opera House Crush Bar at 7pm
Ever trusting - SUSAN

O

OH Valentine, please come with me
On a lifelong journey for two
You can bring Pink Elephant and Gorilla
And I'll bring Teddy too
We needn't take much money
Ten shillings should see us through
And as we go through life together
I'll always think of you.

O.M.S. You make me so very happy. I Love You J XXXXXXXXXX

OBSESSED. Crazy Love. Kevin you're my life breath. Husband Wife mighty Mence's

ODD EYES Daddy Warbucks stopped smoking in the tent cuz e luvs ya.

ODE to my love I know my Bear toils very hard doing so much work each day. I know she worships her little Bears, my love for her mere words can't say. Mr D Bear.

OH, To love dear Chipmunk is truely bliss. Sublime. Noodle and the three B's. Salute their valentine.

OH you beautiful babes from England, for whom we've travelled through time, will you come to the pub in Botham and we'll have a most excellent most time! Bill & Ted.

OINKYMOOBAR Now everyone knows that I Love you to Tiny Bits! Je T'aime forever. Dak-Dak, xh.

OLD Gadgie Bears are collectable. Lets keep each other. Mrs Bear.

OLGA HANNA Gatwick Translation Services. Je t'aime. Ich liebe dich. I love you. Don (Juan?)

OLIVIA Classy name, classy lady! I love you very much, Graham xxx

ONE Kiss I'the rain: How Golden the Lane, How happy and proud. Dear Raimond, your Cloud!

ONION BUM Love you Muffin Puffin Fluffin Squaw yoss moss love Dicks.

OSMOND - Love your body, hate your politics! Can't have everything I suppose! Bundles of affection as always. Miss P.N. XX.

OUR Valentine always Louise. Malignant tumour would conquer. Alive our Omar indeed. Remeber your Love Mountr.

P

PAUL
After 5 happy years. Hope we have many more. Sorry I lost my wedding ring. Lots of love.
Mary xxxxxx

P.S. Angel Delight comes in decibels: Love the Pink Consumer.

P.O. BOX 77 From frustrated continental daytripper alias Brighton Belle. Love M.

PADDLES He's a charmer, she's divine and they are both just like their father. Love Doris.

PAM IDDISON The light of my world and keeper of my heart. ILY eternally... Android.

PAM Remember Bristol 1962. Still the same! All my love always John.

PATSY Thanks for being quite simply so complete, three words speak volumes. I love you. W.I.B.S.Y.

PATSY - Loved you then, love you now, will love you always. Flowerpot.

PATTIE P. I love you more than ever and want you as my Valentine always. All my love Bill.

PAULA Ah' jus' luv yo' lazy lime pie, honey - an bah th' way when yo' gonna take ma name huh?

PAULA I love you madly, please always be my Valentine. Roger.

PAULINE Your very presence is like a wonderful moment suspended in time and your love is a treasure beyond price. Frank. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

PAULINE The sexiest and most rampant girl in Hampshire. Don't forget your riding outfit and whip on Thursday. With loving anticipation. A. xxxx

PAUL - I would have placed my message here but only The Sun would accept it without copy change - sound familiar?

PAULINE Van Der Hoff loves Andrew Taylor now and forever.

PAUL Tea tastes awful drunk apart. Our future's together. Love you Possum.

PEANUTS Picasso loves Miss Almond Gainsborough very much. Including new bits!

PEARL - Pulchritudinous ecstatic adorable resourceful lovely. Initially yours with love.

PEMBE. Pembe, Gönlüm sende. now and forever united in love. your "Monarchy".

PENNY Love you lots only Eighty Nine more days to go. S.

PERCY, miss you and your cuddles very much. All my love Eth.

PERSIE Lubbed you lots and lots for always from your Prune Bean.

PHIL going to sleep and waking up in your arms makes me so very happy. Always be my Valentine. H.

PIE JESU. Nothing changes darling. Linda.

PIG-A-ROE We Love you. From Piglet and Pudding. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.

PIGGLE and Piglet the sty wouldn't be the same without you both love m.

PIGLET Wilhelmolina your skrunkle is skrunkley, your skraggle skriggley and skroggle mmmmmmh!

PIGLET, I love you to pieces - but the question is what colour? Love Bear.

PIGLET needs to be needed again. Rescue me Robbie Bear. Love you x x x.

PIGLET I.L.Y. T.T.T.E. M.T.A.A. K.B.F.P. x x x

PIG you were the wind beneath my wings. I still love you.

PINBALL LOVER I'm still pink and bouncy with a big appetite for fun, are you game? Kirby.

PJ This is message year eight, and you're still my dream date. Be forever mine, in all ways for always. Darling Valentine, I love you xxx SC.

POODLE Wherever you are there's always Pooh who loves you madly darling.

POOH BEAR is one she has come of age and has decided that the only way to spend her life is with Bee whom she loves completely. Please can we play together forever and ever?

POOK. With all our heart we love you. Love Pookey and Benjamin.

POOPY, This is the way I do it! Dodles, Poppy xxx.

POPPETTE Soon we shall lay together on the summit of Mount Ida.

POPPETT you feed my every hunger and I will always be yours. All my love Fat Bum.

POPPET Darling Will You Marry Me? All my love your Boots.

POPS Willow loves you until he sheds his leaves. Be mine today.

PORK Pie touch me, kiss me, love me, marry me? Adore you Pousse

POSSIE Oceans of deep love from your Black Prince.

POUR Donald L'homme de ma coeur le PDA. Ultimate pour te dire que le sourire grandit. Beverley.

PRECIOUS Let us seek the Paradise island, loads of hugs 'n kisses? Blossom.

PRINCESS, A year today and I love you more and more. Pickle.

PRINCESS Pretty Legs be my Valentine. All my love, Little Dog.

PRINCESS You are my life. Please let me live. Hopelessly yours. Martin.

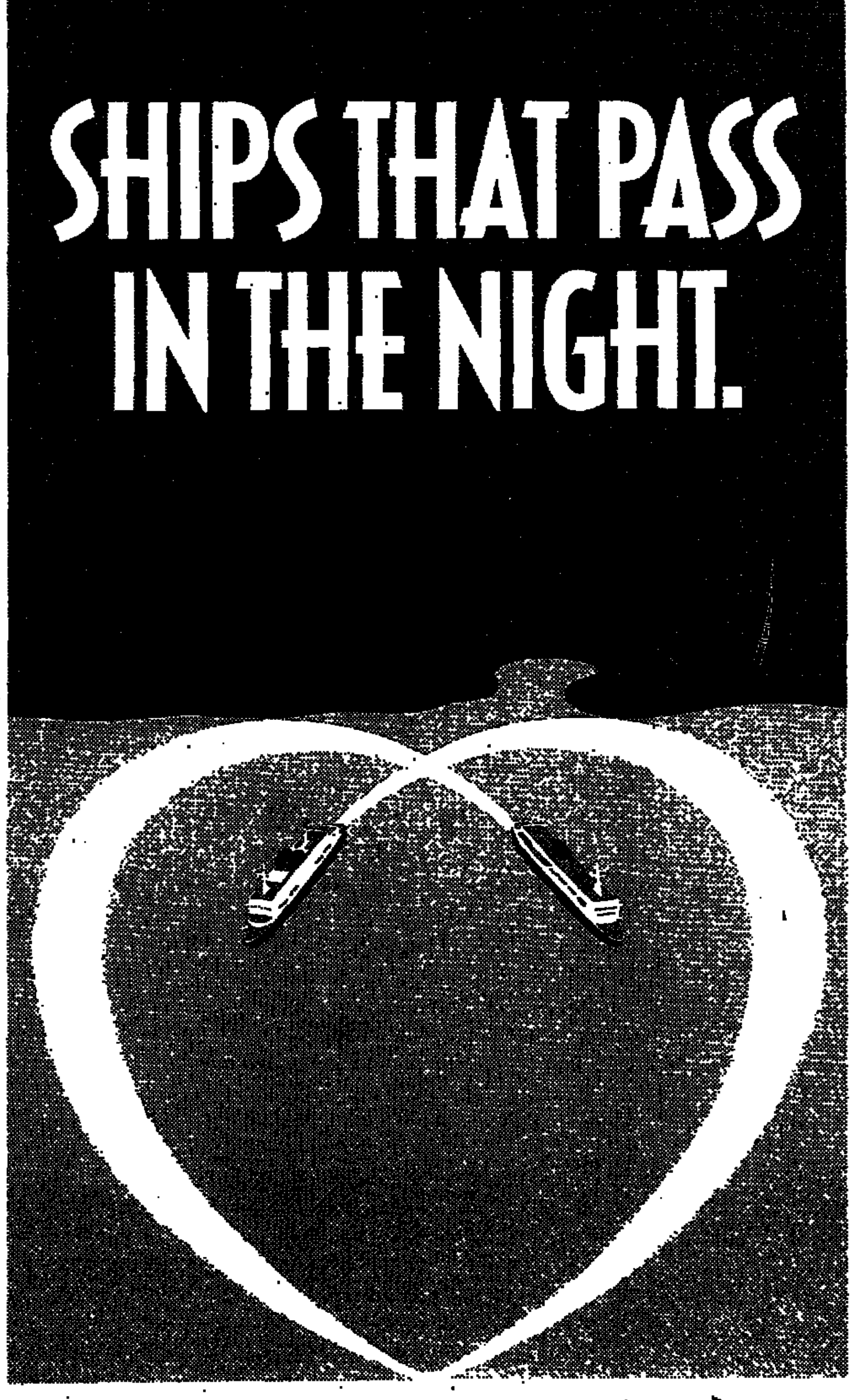
PRINCESS Your greatest admirer t'aime à la folie. You are his Darling.

PRINCESS Welcome to a new life. Warrior.

PUMPKIN My darling I love you lots and lots and I'm protecting the options. B.P.

PUTTI, Masses of cuddley love from your two chaps.- Hugs and winkle.

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R

RUBINA, MY DARLING,
The light in your eyes dispels the shadows from around me, my soul glows with the brilliance of your smile, you bring me great joy and serenity, you are my oasis, my sanctuary, a blessing in my life, and I cannot be without you, my sweet beloved.
RUSS X.

R.B. Will always be there when you need me. Thinking carefully, love you deeply J.

R. Let your love shine on, for we are the stars in the sky. B.

R. Surely its time we played the balcony scene again. Love you and miss you. J.

RACHEL Happy Valentines from Haddal, Orehee and Daddyo xxx

RAY M.A. M.Sc. R.N. My amour my scholar. Release never. Your June.

RAY of sunshine, you've made this my special year, much love Honey.

REESINGTON Wife and mother sex-kitten and best friend. Love you stacks. Padre.

REMEMBER our Tryst in Chinese Pagoda? Love flows as strongly today. Zakiya.

REMEMBER............ xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

RHONA Be constant as a shadow when the sun is there above, all my love be constant when the trees are bare. Alan.

RICHARD Love your "gifted" hard light. Roll over, Love from The Boys.

RICHARD, You're off the schwing-o-meter. I Love you big time. Amanda.

RICHARD Loving you is the most wonderful feeling. I Love You Tickey. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

RICK. Romance is the icing but love is the cake. Together we have got a a very special recipe. Love S.

RINA, I fall in love again everytime I see you. Spencer xxxx

ROBERT Happyvday. My darling I love you. Miss you already. Wear it? Kisses.

ROGER RABBIT - love you lots and lots Big Bunny - Mrs Rabbit.

ROMI I love you now and I'll love U always !!!Love your darling Nikky.

RON SERGEJEV Cheer up, we miss your smile. love Jane and Janet.

ROO. Please don't ever change I love you just the way you are! love always Jess. XXX

ROO Please don't ever change, I love you just the way you are! Love always Jess xxx

ROSEMARY, Flower, Fragrance Flavour, Six times my Valentine. All my love, Tom.

ROSES radish, violets bloomin, over you moonish, lets make love soonish.

ROSES are pink, Violets are blue, I love Timewarp Television, More than I love You.

ROSES are red, violets are blue, do you love me as much as I love you?

ROSES are red, Paddington Bear is blue, widemouth frog smiles, dinner for two?

RUTH Loving you is everything. One day the sun will always shine. P.

Flowers delivered by hand straight to the heart of Fruitbat, Squidgy, Snugglepops.........
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FREECALL 0500 43 43 43.

S

SCOTTIE
They all say that you're pretty And in I.Q. you're bright, Infact that you twinkle and shine. To me though you're all the World and the Stars And bestest of all you are Mine!
JULIAN.

Sweet Caroline's
A lusty bint
Who longs to see
Her name in print.
She seems to think
The only way
Is scribbling Mills
And Boon all day.
But here it is.
For all to see,
With bell to pay
If traced to me:
Well, sod them all
Sweet Caroline
You are my one
True Valentine!

SIÂN'S SIX
Todays the day you start anew
lets hope the ads are not so few
We wish you luck,
you'll do so well
for as a team you are all swell.

S.A.S. years go by with no change Love you' as always and our separation hurts B.

S. C. G. - There will never be another, I can't stop loving you - Bigboy.

S. 1987 Folle 284 Plus Je vous vois plus Je vous aime Your Non-Executive Director.

S. Gather the rose of love whilst yet is time. Whilst loving thou mayst loved be with equal crime. E.

S.L. Our 3rd Valentine. Ich liebe Dich immer noch mehr. Love David.

S.M.P. Sharply sophisticated marvelously mushy & perfectly pricey. love M.P.

SALLY ANNE Johnston. Mistakes they are dear to me now to learn to rebuild to be stronger. too??? Chit.

SALLY Whether home or away I think of you and Love you always. 80039072.

SALLY BOX. All my love Terry. Baby crumpling box growl, growl growl.

SALLY I can take the pace if Ukcam.

SAM December '89 The Gloucester. A rendezvous that signified the beginning of the happiest days of my life. Meet you there one day to celebrate. I love you.

SAM Looking forward to all our life together. All my love D.

SAM My love is true my heart is yours. Sloppy kisses, Carlos.

SANDIE - 1964 - Edith Grove your Ken High Street flat (footprints in the snow) Please contact for great reunion lunch or dinner to remember wonderful times together. H.. Please Reply to Box No 6067

SANDRA JACKSON - My thoughts hopes and love are ever with you in your Ivory tower - Richard.

SANDRA We've wasted too much time. Let's not waste any more. Will you marry me?

SANDRA Missing you lots. always be mine. all my love N.

SANDY We were happy then so please please marry me again. J.

SARAH - A very special person with a wonderful personality. I love being married to you - Andrew.

SARAH MEADER You can never imagine how much I miss you. I will always love you. No one will replace you "E" x x

SARAH MEADER you can never imagine how much I miss you. I will always love you. no one will replace you "E" XX.

SARAH BEAR, you're the most wonderful person ever. All my love, David.

SARAH chilly willy is time spent in the snow. (Lav) VB A feeling from my heart

SARAH Wait wait wait - but don't. I always love Esmödah.

SARAH, the waft of mimosa and a date in April. Happiness B.P.

SARA Woof Woof. Bark Bark. love the dog a bone!!! Harry.

SAS Still forgotten the times. but we're still into something good. SAS.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS gave us harmony, a newt for you and a madame for me. From a very Green Gentleman. Really.

SCHISCHI Du weisst Bescheid: In Ewigkeit. Dein treuer Husar. (From DOWSETT C., 21 Hurst Rise Road, Oxford OX2 9HE.

SCORPIO. Impossible ? Nothing is impossible. With the first dream that comes with the first sleep I run I run I am gathered to your heart. Aries

SCRATCH In my eyes you will always be perfect. All my love. now and forever. Fluffy.

SCRUNGER, I'll always love you. Scrunges and hugs. Yours forever, Stinker xxxxx

SHAGGY AERO I can't stop. I won't stop, but I always will. John. Mel and me.

SHAMPOO I Love You Forever Menstrual xxx

SHARON I want everyone to know how much I love you. M.

SHARON with all my love for ever and always John.

SHAZ. I love you from Berkeley Square to eternity! Your Marcus Aurelius.

SHEILA Ballerina, perfect pliés, gracious glissés bellissimo adagio but best at Jumps!

SHEILA - Standing in your heart is where I want to be, and long to be Alan.

SHELTON. Heather. London, ex-Australia. Wherever, whenever: come home. Love. miss you. Mike.

SHEP, my handsome boy: The desire gets deeper - your beautiful girl - Val.

SHIRLEY, my heart is yours. always You are my only Rose - J.R.

SILVER TONGUED Lounge Lizard TLC. showers and huggles in Malaysia. Perfect Cherry

SIMON Catford may not be Spain but I love you all the same - Hugs and kisses from me. xxx

SIMON ARCHER B.O.yellow blue vase very much. Your L. O.

SIMON I will love you now and forever, all my love Chris.

S-JR I long to slope off. Sorry about riding. Love most DM.

SLEEPLESS in Sarajevo! Thinking of you, sees me through! Be mine Karen.

SLIM adorable Piscean all love from your sop keep cheerful all will turn out.

SLIM Can't wait to set sail with you! Love Dick.

SLIMLINE I Love you... yours always Tommy Tucker

SNIFFY Roll on September. I love you. Rich xxxx xxx xxx xxxx

SMUDGER Everyday I Love You a little bit more, difficult after 7 years. Love Mrs BS.

SNOOKY fancy some - ykoons on the 14th. Love Tim xx

SNOOPY: Jackie, Nancy, Barbara, Hilary and Snoopy. Love the Red Baron X.

SNUGFIT, certainly does, to the most beautiful lover in the world. Jig-a-Jigs.

SNUGGLY MONSTER I shall love you forever. All my love. DR BON.

SNUGS from her moonbeam; roving in Eden. Ah, to be! Might I but linger tonight in thee!

SOHEYLA Though apart I Love you still and so in truth I always will Eddy Joon.

SOLDIER Boy. You have captured my heart completely. Perfect Love. Perfect Happiness. Yours always. Rainbow Lady.

SOME Times have been quite wonderful, other times have been impossible, but at all times I Love You BJ.

SOPHIE PIE Miss you and love you lots Steve xxx.

SOPPY in Richmond Soppy Messiaen's O'iseaux sing for you. Liquid. Liquid. Lovely love that chirps for Jessica. Love forever Mr B.

SPIG Cannot forget what you said. (crisis) Please phone me weekdays. L.

SPORRAN I Love you always. Don't make me wait forever Splat xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

SPOTTY DOG On the snowy mountain when I said 'Yes' to thee, soon we'll be together for all eternity love Squidgy.

SQUIDGEY BUM My life would be flat and wrinkly without you. C.

SQUIGGLE POPS, snuggling down with you and the monster is a perfect evening - Honey Bun.

SQUIRREL: Mayday!! Fallen overboard for you... getting very Wet!! Your Gold ring for life... 28th MayDrey!!.

SQUIRMY/Dumps love you always. John.

STARRY eyed Jack needs urgent medical help. Tenor seeks to keep abreast of Blonde soprano.

STELLA I cannot wait to tell the world I Love You, Jeremy.

STEPHEN. Bathtime and Candles, Stairs and Kitchen Cupboards. Happy Times C.

STEPHIE Money no consideration, right place, right time, be forever my Valentine xx

STEVE Even though the beaches are windswept and my hands are cold, I wouldn't change our weekends not for all your gold? I wish!! Zoe. xxx

STEVE, take my hand and never let go. Love forever, Kari. xxxxx

ST NICHOLAS Thank you for being my Valentine. Lost you always.

SUE, another year away but the last? Love you so much. Always Ian.

SUE C. It's the little things that count and they will! T.C.

SUE I love you more as each year goes by. Derek.

SUE Love you always, to next 26 as happy as now - Pete.

SUE our love keeps growing day by day. Truly madly deeply desperately. I've found my Susan, love always - Goat.

SUE Our habite Pinner, voulez vous du dejeuner avec moi ma cherie.

SUES. The linen tainted and so did I. With love. K.

SUNSHINE, You are the light of my life shine brightly forever. moonlight.

SUSAN Once you had message none could find now you find message can you me find.

SUSIE A Mugwump is not just for Christmas but is forever. Graham

SUZE The Dude. Still madly in love three years on. Purple Pasty.

SWEEPER-BEAR have a lovely day. I'm missing you already. love Rudi.

SWEETIE Have I told you lately that I love you. Have I told you there's no one above you. Fill my heart with gladness. Take away my sadness. Ease my troubles, that's what you do. K. xxx

SWEETIEPIE You're looking great & I love you more than I have ever done before, so let's get married in '94 cos you, my duck, I'll always adore. All my love Spuddykins xxxxxx

SWEETHEART I have spread my dreams under your feet. Tread softly. Joshua.

SWEET BEAR Happy Valentines Day even if you are in prison. Moley

SWEETYPOPS, not long now! Love you lots and lots. Forever. Douglas.

SWEETIEPIE Together on a monday if only in brini perennial love Barrowboy.

SWEET Rosy nearly lost yet forever mine thou beautiful thou. Loving Eternal Valentine.

SWEETY PIE Onze ans apres vaux le vicomte c'est toujours l'amour. Je t'aime. Teddy Bear.

SWEET LOUISE have a wild ride with me. With love your lustful drooling monster.

T

TODAY, PEOPLE will know that you KATHRYN make the SUN shine in my heart. You leave an EXPRESSion on the face of this MAIL that is TELEGRAPHed to all INDEPENDENT OBSERVERS who can see that I LOVE YOU 1000 TIMES over. JOHN.

TO LOVELY LAURA FROM TIG
Fiery Liony Lady,
My Love I underline
And hope that you incline
To be my Valentine.

★★★★★★★★★★★★
TO
my darling Don,
all my love as always.
Forever Sam
XXXXXXXXXXXXX
★★★★★★★★★★★★

TO MY LITTLE ANGEL.
My dearest darling another year of love and happiness has gone by. Thankyou for all your acts of gentleness and of love and for making it an especially Happy Year by becoming my Wife. You have given me so much and have made my life complete. I Love You very much.
ALL MY LOVE DAVE.

T.L. What better time to ask you.... Marry me ? Love always - John x.

TANIEWSKI 50 today and I love you 50 Times over. Your Chrissy.

TANYA STYLES its not just your breakfasts I'm after!!!.

TANZEY You are simply the greatest person in the world. love Andy.

TASMANIAN Devil you drive me wild. Can't wait for the land of OZ. Love the Brat Pack.

TATIANA Loving longing needing grow with each succeeding year. Nanboe.

TEDRUB Love you lots now and forever. Wrigly Bols.

TESSA BOWEN you're better than any curry I've ever had. Warren.

TET You are the kindest caring wife a husband could ever have. Love you forever. Bigsies.

TEZZY WEZZY I love you for being you and for having a crack at everything especially me! Uggy Buggy

THAD, Love shines through the rubble and dust. Almost there! Your Twamp.

THE Diamond stallion goes from strength to strength loved by D.D.

THE love of a Loris - keeper is everything Loris.

THE Melton runner assent F.E.P. Love you forever. Grumpy Grandad Preston

THE onlie bearer of Elizabeth 1st. I love you still and always.

THERESA eleven years is too short. I love you forever in my dotage. I can see!!

THERE is evil on your mind mother of Tozzer, put it in the freezer.

THE supreme happiness in life is the conviction we are loved.

THIS Melody is for you kitten. L'Ocean entre nous - bonny wee cloud.

THREE Years since our first Valentine and "it gets better". With Love from delicious Button B. Poppy to her Cuddly Sweetie Pugs. xxx

THROUGH thick and thin I've stuck by you. So now you should realise I do love you. Love Penny XXXXXXX

TIGER ANNIE! I love you... I'll give you passionate kisses and pens that don't run our of ink! Love S xxxx

TIGER Painted Face fell from the Shobdon skies. with love forever Bear.

TIGER Panels. omnia sollia and insane love from your cubiet swain. Reasonable?

TIME and distance make no difference, you know my heart won't let you go. Anon.

TIMES When you exasperate me. Recent times of hurt and deep sorrow from you. Still drawn together, common bond of love. Affectionate licensed practitioner.

TIMEWARPS are pink, Timewarps are blue, I'd spend the rest of my life. Just watching you.

TINNI Darling I love you all the way from London to Bombay. R

TITCH Destiny was an attempted kiss! You Changed my life beautifully, passionately, magically. A.F.Y.

TO Adrian my beloved companion and friend I pledge my love. Emma.

TOADY Love you billions Big Big

TO Alf Shureway my Dearest Alf now that you are here on earth and not an inelmec my life is complete. Your Polar Bear.

TO A Moose who means so much I cannot wait until June. Love you always, a smaller Ord

TO BEAN All my love now and always Neil xxx

TO Barnard. Is it cheque is it cheque is it cheque or is it cash. Much love always xxx Ralph.

TO Bernadette, I'll love you forever, hugs & kisses Matthew.

TO Bev. I love you lots. T.E.

TO Big B. Lots of love from Little B.

TO Butch and Bump. all my love your Red Hotted Blood.

TO Catherine McDonner McShish Clayton Farlow Rusk with all my love from your Piglet xxxxxx

TO COLEEN and Jack and maybe (—), my love for the year ahead.

TO Critell and Bubbah. Happy Valentines Day Love from Maley XXX

TO DAWN I know you have a lot to put up with but I love you more than you will ever know. All my love M.

TO EEYORE in the next field. Love from the Boggy Bits in the useful pot.

TO Green eyes and a south facing garden.

TO Holy Joe from the answer to all your prayers. Willy Winkie.

TO Honey from Ponkey. All the sand on the seashore. All my love.

TO KC plus SWRC. Thanks for another wonderful year. All my love to you both. MC.

TO Kissyface. After all these years it's still as strong as ever. Always yours, Button.

TOLPUDDLE Scampi love is a very special thing. IWLYA. H.

TO M.W. Happy Valentines Day with lots of love to someone very special. D.B.M.

TO my baby S.J. Our time will come. all my love Nico.

TO my darling Virginia. Although I'm engaged now to somebody new I fell that eleven years of love must now be released, love California.

To my darling future husband. Tim, I look forward to meeting you across the ocean, to become my present husband. Huge E N. XXX.

TO my darling Alex, mother of our sons Alexandra and Christian. Will love you for always. Happy Valentines Day. Panda

TO my darling Mart. Will love you forever, love Michaela and BJ.

TO my darling Flossy. Thank you for being my Valentine. With all my love Tife xxx.

TO my darling Colleen looking forward to February 3rd. All my love, Neil xx

TO my darling Lavinia in Shrewsbury. Love you lots? xx

TO my little Shootbangs. You're the BB's and I love you loads. Your one and only Benleklns.

TO My little princess lots of love and snuggles from Cuddley Bunny

TO my Little Chicken. I love you more than ever. - Bagman Aldy.

TO My Master with love form his adoring & obedient H.M.S. x

TO my very dearest friend Brian Happy Valentine's Day. Love you. With all my heart Dee.

TO Nigel - wit, wisdom and a little bum. It chi amo xxxx

TO Nina. You are wonderful. I am wonderful, together we are marvellous.

TONY DAY My only little snapper who flashes for me. Dr Mould.

TO Sal my seven month old wife. Happy Valentine Day baby. Love always. Tim.

TOSH Happy Birthday you old Scunge Bucket I love you all the ones A.M.I.L.F.X. to infinity.

TO the best, Snuggliest Cuddliest Adorable Pie in the World and everything! Love you Forever Kiddo. xxx.

TO the Travelling Wilbury. The roads go on forever as does my love for you. Michael Barrymore

TO The Innocent Viking Scribe love you madly and always. From the Celtic Mathematician.

TO the Dolly. Love and thanks always especially for the hat. D.J.T.

TO ' The Williams' my love grows as the years go by. O.H. still hoping.

TO the sweetest flower in Athens. All my love and kisses. Luvu.

TO the one that means more than words can say. Love forever M.

TO the mother of Ned, the woman with all my love. A.

TO touch me without touching was all I desired and now I am touched heart and soul. John L.

TOWFT THOMPSON and BK send you their fondest love. kissy kissy kissy.

TREASURE Thank you for darling for ten years of empathy. love you much.

TREASURE I love you this much. Truely.

TRICIA You always were, you are, you always will be. love Albert.

TUFTY BIRD loves you. I am bewildered. Thank you forever. P.S. - Kisses for Treacle.

TURCEL This one's for you. Sigh, press me to you. Love, Robert.

TUPPENCE I Love You tenderly, dearly and forever JPD.

TWAMP We are still flying high at Longspring. Much Love Thad.

TWIN Zeps how do I love thee? Let me count the ways, mango, cucumber etc. Ditto. Luscious Wang

V

V.S.A. You are and for ever will be the one Graham.

VALENTINE? Merely a date. when birds may mate, the saint I celebrate, a saint for everyday is Adelaide, my wife, my saint for life.

VALENTIN-Something special for your first - with my love - from Table Thirteen.

VANESSA you sent me into orbit, still waiting to land. Love A.P.B.

VANESSA G. - Your multi-coloured bean bag boy is thinking of you xxx T.

VENUS Through all the years I love you madly. Mars.

VERONICA COLLINS You sexy girl, give me a nod & we'll give it a whirl. Who am I? I can't really say, but if you're lucky, I'll tell you some day.

VERONICA Everlasting romance outshining novelist including caressing awhile. Paul announces unique love.

VICTOR DOLPHIN, you are simply the best. Love you forever. B.B.

VI, my dearest love when I look at you and think that we will share life together my heart feels free. light. Love YI

VIVIENNE you are more than a jar full of sticklebacks and a bag full of conkers. David.

VIVIENNE - Time is passing us both by. Put the past away, make 1994 our new beginning

VODEN I think the world of you. love you.

VOYAGEUR How long will we continue searching before realising I belong in your arms. Miss you.

W

WENDY
Your return to my life is worth more to me than all the dreams of avarice.
Love you, Charles.

WAINE The Frensham Ponds agreement still holds thanks to you - simply the best - thank you.

WALENTINA many thanks for the love, support and children since 1989. Love always - Ferenc.

WE have a special kind of love. I miss you and long to hold you. CC.

WENDY You are the lovliest lady in the world. A sexy stunner. I bet you look great in lingerie.

WE who are but stars apart do not touch but with the heart.

WEY-HEY and Goofy - All my love times a million billion trillion - Bicycle.

WHEN Slovene jewel met English teddy bear the result was everlasting happiness.

WHEN the Owl met the Blade, there was only one way to go - two Blades, a semi-final and a wedding all in one season. I'll love you forever and for that I'll never need a reason.

WHITE RABBIT - Not too old to perform the Hat Trick, I hope. Love Alice in down-under land.

WIFELET Thank you for the last wonderful 8 months. I's how it will always be. With all my love your Husbandlet.

WILD Woman of Kendal. Safari with me, slowly and gently. Will Love you forever. G.

WILKES green Ronny. Its time to let the world know. "You're London lover.

WILLIAM mein schön Liebhaber Pron ich gerecht Anbeten Heide Jeder Tag Karen.

WINKIE Wherever you are I'm still your Bear.

WOOFTER, I yearn constantly for both your fragrance and warmth. You nose I luv you! G.J.L.

WOUZEL You'll always be my little treasure... love you forever H Pot.

Y

Y.C.C. To my little sis, you're one very special lady. Miss you lots...love you always - Big Bruv.

YIGIT EYYUB Ben seviorum seni. Anna XXXXXXXXX!!! (ps. The Boys are missing you!!)

Y I have spread my dreams under your feet - tread softly! R.

YOU froze East/West relations Mrs R. Now you've moved from the East the West looks more tempting - please start the thaw. D.

YVETTE I will always be yours. You are my life. M.

YVONNE. "Fair hair she had and golden skin, her sulky lips were shaped for sin." With love from the car on the downs.

Z

ZAYNE, I love you more than yesterday but less than tomorrow. Be my Valentine. Linus.

ZOË Ruth love from Polly Pru and Pussy Thanks for the walks.

THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE TIMES
WEDDINGS
On Sunday 20th & Saturday 26th February 1994, we will be publishing the definitive guide to Weddings '94 within the popular Sunday Times Style & Travel section and The Times Magazine.
Weddings are one of the most special occasions so if you are in the business of selling wedding dresses, suits, flowers or that special wedding item to make a perfect day, then contact the Features
Team on: 071-481 1920

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY FEBRUARY 14 1994

NEWS

Major carries on campaign

John Major is to plough on with his back-to-basics campaign even though he is under growing pressure to drop it in the wake of the latest embarrassing disclosures about Baroness Thatcher's successor as MP for Finchley.

Hartley Booth's resignation over his relationship with his former research assistant has added to the "climate of fear". But neither that nor a poll suggesting that the campaign be abandoned has persuaded ministers ..... **Pages 1, 3**

Air strike decision lies with Rose

Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, Commander of United Nations forces in Bosnia and architect of a ceasefire which could become the turning point in the siege of Sarajevo, said that he would take the final decision on air strikes against Bosnian Serb positions ..... **Pages 1, 11**

Adams moves

Gerry Adams moved another significant step towards rejection of the Anglo-Irish peace initiative when he urged Britain to persuade Northern Ireland's one million Protestants to back a united Ireland ..... **Page 1**

Turning detective

Curators at the Victoria and Albert museum have turned detective after discovering that part of the centrepiece in a furniture exhibition is a fake ..... **Page 1**

Ulster funeral

Hundreds of mourners turned out for the funeral in Co Londonderry of Dominic McGlinchey, one of Ulster's most brutal republican paramilitaries ..... **Page 2**

Latin class

Oxford University will open up its classics degrees to students without A level Latin to counter the decline in the subject in state schools ..... **Page 2**

Parties register

Nineteen parties have registered to take part in the South African elections, and it became clear that the white right wing and the ruling parties of KwaZulu and Bophuthatswana intend to boycott it ..... **Page 13**

Double onslaught

The Government will face a double onslaught in Parliament and possible legal action over proposals for a system to compensate victims of crime ..... **Page 7**

Illicit influence

The illicit drugs culture has extended its influence. The country cousins of streetwise metropolitan youths are experimenting with cannabis, Ecstasy, LSD and amphetamines ..... **Page 8**

EU lobbied

John Major has sent messages to ten fellow Prime Ministers in the European Union asking them to back Sir Leon Brittan as the next President of the European Commission ..... **Page 12**

Beatle battle

The battle is on to stage the first live concert by the Beatles in 24 years. As the remaining members head back to the studios, promoters are offering platforms at summer festivals ..... **Page 3**

Italian warning

Italy will cease to be a credible European partner if the right-wing alliance led by Silvio Berlusconi wins the general election, Beniamino Andreatta, the Foreign Minister, said ..... **Page 12**

British constitution

Britain's unwritten constitution has been admired for its flexibility, adaptability and capacity to survive industrial change, wars, social upheavals and a widening suffrage ..... **Page 9**

Horses burnt

Six horses were burnt to death when arsonists set fire to their stables after dousing the animals and bedding with petrol ... **Page 5**

British police train Palestinian force

Half a century after Britain disbanded the Palestine Police in the closing days of colonial rule, British police officers are returning to help establish a Palestinian force. Ron Compton, chief constable of Nottinghamshire, is expected in Jerusalem to begin training some of the 15,000 Palestinians to be deployed in the occupied territories later this year ..... **Page 13**



Stella Lam covers her ears during the fireworks in celebration of the Chinese New Year in Chinatown, London yesterday

SPORT

Skiing: Tommy Moe, of the United States, took the blue riband event at the Winter Olympics when he beat Kjetil Andre Aamodt by four hundredths of a second in the men's downhill ..... **Page 25**

Cricket: Angus Fraser, who cracked a bone in his left hand during England's match with Barbados, is expected to be fit but under-prepared for the first Test with West Indies ..... **Page 23**

Football: A Ryan Giggs goal gave Manchester United a 1-0 win in the first leg of their Coca-Cola Cup semi-final tie with Sheffield Wednesday at Old Trafford ..... **Page 23**

BUSINESS

Low profile: The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which achieved notoriety under Jacques Attali, is now so low key that some fear the bank's main purpose of funding for Eastern Europe is suffering ..... **Page 44**

Inflation rising: Financial markets are likely to concentrate on January inflation, which could rise sharply to 2.6 per cent ..... **Page 44**

Names revolt: Lloyd's of London is braced for loss-making names to reject the insurance market's £900 million settlement offer in favour of fighting it out through the courts ..... **Page 41**

FEATURES

Intimate note: A love letter is the most potent way to declare oneself. Julia Llewellyn Smith on the hearts trembling in anticipation of today's post ..... **Page 14**

In the pink: There is the fear that wearing pink is not for anyone over the age of consent, but the look need not always seem little girlie ..... **Page 15**

EDUCATION

Dream screens: A revolution that could change the way children learn is under way. John O'Leary on technology ..... **Page 35**

ARTS

Unlikely hero: Oskar Schindler is a hero. Yet his own people been reluctant to accept him. Now Steven Spielberg's film, *Schindler's List*, may teach Germans their history ..... **Page 37**

Same old story: The advance hype surrounding Channel 4's show, *Don't Forget Your Toothbrush*, suggested a brilliant and original broadcasting concept. It turned out to be a straightforward ratings-grabber ..... **Page 37**

Belated premiere: At Covent Garden, Tim Albery and Antony McDonald will stage *Chérubin* for the first time in Britain ..... **Page 38**

PEOPLE IN THE TIMES



Emily Barr's friendship with Hartley Booth led to the Tory MP's resignation as parliamentary private secretary to the Foreign Minister
Page 3



Kim Basinger and her husband, Alec Baldwin, exploited their real life marriage to allay public doubts about sex on the screen
Page 10



Tonya Harding has been allowed to compete in the Winter Olympics because the dispute threatened to upstage other competitions
Pages 10, 23, 25

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Better by far

The Tate Gallery's new Picasso show will set a standard unlikely to be matched for years to come, in Britain or anywhere else

Grasping religion

How insubstantial must the grasp on a religion be, if it has to be propped up by hangings and woundings and beatings and murderings? Bernard Levin on the murder of Bishop Haik Hovsepian-Mehr

What price pregnancy

What are the long-term implications of the recent awards to pregnant women sacked from the armed forces? Geoffrey Bindman reports

TV LISTINGS

A shoplifter says she can make up to £1,300 a day. *Cutting Edge: Shops and Robbers* (Channel 4, 9pm) ..... **Page 43**

OPINION

Message to Moscow

It is now up to Mr Major to explain Western thinking on Bosnia to Mr Yeltsin face to face. There can be no hectoring. The Russians resent being dictated to ..... **Page 17**

The first mile

Israel might have had its reasons for hastening slowly over this difficult first mile in negotiations with the Palestinians, but Mr Rabin must now quicken the caravan's pace ..... **Page 17**

The lost scream

The theft of Edvard Munch's masterpiece *The Scream* is a crime as embarrassing as it is mysterious. There may be a political motive, but theft does nothing to relieve this century's suffering ..... **Page 17**

COLUMNS

PETER RIDDELL

Britain is in danger of having a lowest common denominator foreign policy. Half-hearted measures are adopted to maintain international solidarity and to keep the Tory Party united. But the national interest is not advanced, allies are unimpressed and the party remains divided ..... **Page 16**

MATTHEW PARRIS

The weeks have become like a bad dream. Symbols ... are whirled around, distorted, thrust before us in a grotesque parody of love, honour and public duty. I keep trying to wake up ..... **Page 16**

OBITUARIES

William Conrad, actor and film director; Beltran Osorio, 18th Duke of Alburquerque; Lovraj Kumar, petroleum adviser to the Indian government; Rudolf Schwarz, conductor; Johnny Kwango, wrestler ..... **Page 19**

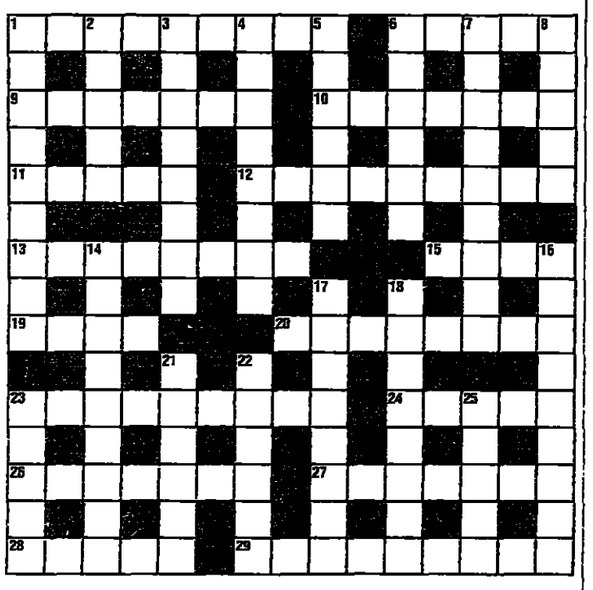
LETTERS

Safety nets for Hong Kong's non-Chinese minority ..... **Page 17**

QUOTE

In the past US presidents have avoided open breakdowns in these trade negotiations. This time something has changed
— The Washington Post

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,465



ACROSS

1 Required to take the long view when over a barrel? (9).
6 Make progress by a foot or two (5).
9 Girl with mountain retreat needs an aerial (7).
10 Drapery once ironed in eastern Europe (7).
11 Boundary hit when appeal dismissed gaining advantage (5).
12 Suitable fowl for an alfresco meal? (9).
13 Sleeping partner possibly has scope to finish on board (4-4).
15 Utterly shabby appearance (4).
19 Idolize point-to-point (4).
20 Broker means to get a rise (8).
23 The high-born finding attraction in lush surroundings (3,6).
24 Setting the tone in sales talk (5).
26 Pleasant facility where opponents meet in harmony (7).
27 Pressing information pushed through door (7).
28 Provide proper quarters in the first place (5).
29 He may provide tonic for awful depression when love is lost (9).

DOWN

1 Like birds finding forage around ploughed earth (9).
2 Valued crown of turquoise in expensive mounting (5).
3 Daily broadcasts featuring some bright shafts (8).
4 Writings by German count apt to be above one (6).
5 Persistent type needing no introduction takes heart (6).
6 Apology to wage-limited staff (6).
7 Little drink initially needed to produce Shakespeare perhaps (9).
8 Weapon borne in clan ceremonial (5).
14 Widened road upset perambulation (9).
16 Navigational aid in deserts set up under direction (5,4).
17 Not nearly enough to cover rear of Apache brave! (8).
18 Fail to appreciate motorway's value (8).
21 Hymn providing uplift after beginning of prayers (6)
22 Influenced improperly, we'd say (6)
23 Sign liable to be kicked over if duplicated (5).
25 Hardy girl keeping river lock (5).

KNOCKANDO
The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,464 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a stationery rack

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouos,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife,Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: St Mary's, Isles of Scilly 10C (50F); lowest day max, Boston, Lincolnshire 3C (37F); highest rainfall: St Mary's 0.05in; highest sunshine: Bognor Regis, West Sussex 6.9hr

FORECAST

General: Much of southern and eastern England will have a cloudy day with scattered light snow showers. Later, sleet and snow will become heavier and more prolonged in southwest England and south Wales, with blizzards in places by midnight.

Northwest England and north Wales will be dry and bright for much of the day.

Northern Ireland and western Scotland will have sunny spells, while eastern Scotland will have scattered light snow flurries. It will feel bitterly cold in the fresh easterly wind.

London, SE England, E Anglia, Midlands, E England, Central N England: There will be scattered snow showers. Wind fresh east. Cold. Max 1C (34F).

Central S England, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales: Light snow flurries will become widespread and heavier later in the day. Fresh east wind. Cold. Max 2C (36F).

N Wales, W England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Dry, bright spells. Fresh east wind. Cold. Max 2C (36F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands: There will be scattered light snow flurries. Wind fresh east to southeast. Cold. Max 2C (36F).

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N W Scotland, N Ireland: Dry, sunny spells. Wind fresh southeast. Max 3C (37F).

Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy. Wind fresh to strong southeast. Max 3C (37F).

Outlook: Heavy snow and blizzards spreading northeast on Tuesday. It will be milder with rain on Wednesday.

AROUND BRITAIN

Today: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; du=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	Sun hrs	Rain ins	Max C	Max F		Sun hrs	Rain ins	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	.	.	5	41	c	London	.	0.05	6	46	r
Anglesey	.	0.62	10	50	r	Lowestoft	.	.	6	43	c
Aspatria	0.9	.	8	46	b	Manchester	0.1	0.19	6	43	r
Aviemore	5.2	.	7	45	s	Margate	x	.	7	45	c
Belfast	.	0.43	7	45	d	Minehead	x	0.50	8	46	d
Birmingham	0.1	0.35	5	41	r	Morecambe	0.9	.	7	45	d
Bognor R	.	0.45	6	43	r	Newcastle	1.1	.	6	43	b
Bournem'th	x	.	.	.	.	Newquay	x	.	.	.	.
Bristol	.	0.54	7	45	d	Norwich	0.1	.	5	41	c
Buxton	.	0.13	3	37	du	Nottingham	.	0.04	5	41	c
Cardiff	.	0.62	6	43	d	Penzance	1.2	0.50	12	54	d
Clacton	0.2	.	6	43	c	Plymouth	1.0	0.54	11	52	c
Cleethorpes	x	.	.	.	.	Poole	.	0.57	7	45	r
Colwyn Bay	2.8	0.45	8	46	b	Ross-o-wye	.	0.61	6	43	r
Cromer	.	.	6	43	c	Ryde	x	.	.	.	.
Eastbourne	.	0.11	7	45	r	Salcombe	x	.	.	.	.
Edinburgh	1.2	.	7	45	c	Sandown	.	0.60	7	45	d
Eskdalemuir	.	.	4	39	c	Saunton Snd	0.2	0.55	10	50	c
Exmouth	0.1	0.48	10	50	d	Scarboro'	.	.	5	41	c
Falmouth	x	0.21	11	52	c	Scilly Isles	0.3	0.22	11	52	r
Folkestone	0.5	.	6	43	c	Shanklin	.	0.66	6	43	r
Glasgow	.	.	7	45	c	Skegness	.	.	5	41	c
Guernsey	.	0.49	11	52	c	Southend	0.4	.	7	45	c
Hastings	.	.	7	45	c	Southport	1.0	0.19	7	45	r
Hayling I.	x	.	.	.	.	Southsea	.	0.54	6	43	r
Herne Bay	.	.	6	43	du	Stornoway	0.7	0.02	9	48	c
Hove	.	0.39	7	45	r	Swanage	.	0.56	7	45	r
Hunstanton	2.3	.	6	43	b	Teignmouth	0.1	0.34	11	52	d
Isle of Man	.	0.31	7	45	r	Tenby	.	0.76	7	45	du
Jersey	.	0.92	10	50	r	Troon	.	0.15	7	45	c
Kinloss	5.3	.	8	46	s	Torquay	1.0	0.36	11	52	r
Leeds	.	.	5	41	c	Tynemouth	.	.	5	41	c
Lerwick	.	.	5	41	sh	Ventnor	.	0.59	6	43	r
Leuchars	5.8	.	7	45	s	West-s-mare	x	.	.	.	.
Lisselampton	.	0.43	6	43	r	Weymouth	.	0.47	8	46	d
Liverpool	1.9	0.25	7	45	c	Wick	0.2	.	5	41	c

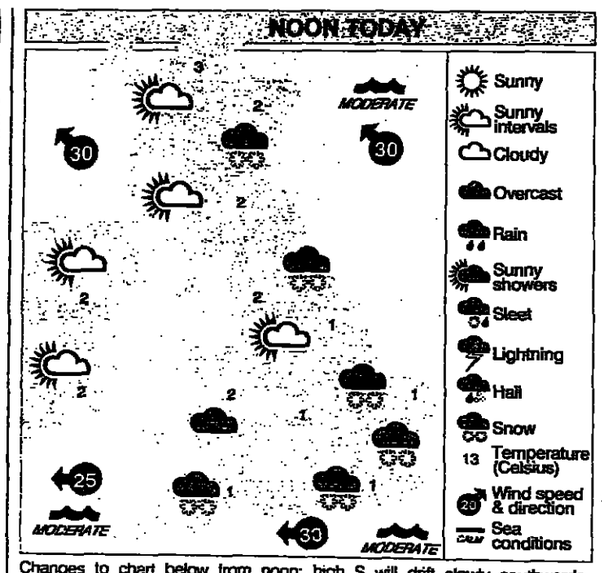
ABROAD

Ajaccio	14	57	s	C'pnegn	1	34	c	Majorca	14	57	f
Alicante	16	61	f	Corfu	10	50	r	Malaga	17	63	s
Alex'dria	18	64	f	Dublin	7	45	f	Malta	13	55	f
Algiers	17	63	f	Dubrovnik	11	52	f	Melb'rne	17	63	f
Amst'dm	4	39	c	Faro	13	55	f	Mexico C	19	66	f
Athens	13	55	s	Florence	10	50	s	Miami	28	82	c
Bahrain	21	70	s	Frankfurt	4	39	f	Milan	12	54	s
Bangkok	33	91	f	Funchal	19	66	s	Montreal	-16	3	s
Barbados	28	82	s	Geneva	5	41	s	Moscow	-23	-9	s
Barcelona	14	57	f	Gibraltar	19	66	s	Munich	2	36	c
Beirut	17	63	s	Helsinki	-18	0	s	Nairobi	.	.	.
Belgrade	6	43	f	Hong K	22	72	c	Naples	10	50	f
Berlin	3	37	f	Innsbruck	1	34	sn	N Delhi	20	68	s
Bermuda	.	.	.	Istanbul	6	43	r	N York	-6	21	sn
Biarritz	13	55	f	Jeddah	27	81	f	Nice	14	57	s
Bordeaux	12	54	r	Jo'burg	24	75	f	Oslo	-3	27	c
Brussels	4	39	s	L Palmas	19	66	s	Paris	4	39	s
Budapst	4	39	c	Le Touet	6	43	f	Peking	0	32	sn
B Aires	13	55	f	Lisbon	15	59	s	Perth	30	86	s
Cairo	16	61	c	Locarno	10	50	s	Prague	1	34	r
Cape Tn	23	73	f	L Angels	13	55	s	Reykjavik	3	37	r
Chicago	-4	25	s	Luxembg	2	36	f	Rhodes	14	57	f
Ch'church	19	66	f	Lyon	20	63	s	Rio de J	34	93	f
Cologne	3	37	f	Madrid	12	54	s	Riyadh	29	84	s

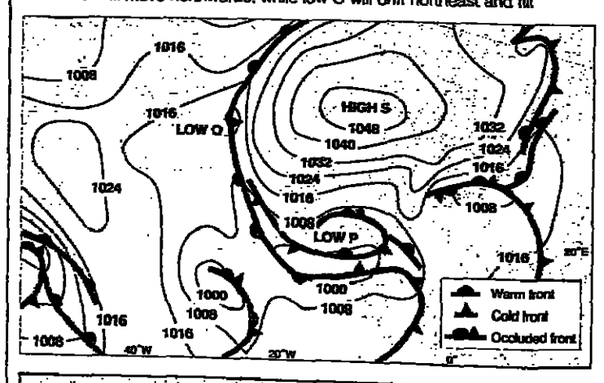
Rome	12	54	s	Salzburg	1	34	sn	Stockholm	-9	16	sn
S Fr'sco	10	50	s	Santiago	26	79	s	Strasb'rg	5	41	c
S Paulo	28	82	c	Seoul	0	32	c	Sydney	27	81	f
Singapr	32	90	f	Tangier	15	59	s	Tel Aviv	16	61	s
Tenerife	21	70	s	Tokyo	8	46	s	Toronto	-11	12	c
Tunis	14	57	f	Valencia	20	68	s	Vanc'ver	3	37	f
Venice	10	50	s	Vienna	3	37	r	Warsaw	1	34	c
Wash'ton	-2	28	d	Wel'ngton	23	73	f	Zurich	0	32	sn

x = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: high S will drift slowly southwards, eventually allowing milder southwesterlies to develop over the British Isles. Low P will move northwards, while low O will drift northeast and fill



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.55	7.12	4.19	7.09	Liverpool	1.10	9.01	1.24	9.23
Aberdeen	3.37	4.06	3.30	4.23	Lowestoft	11.55	2.23	11.47	2.52
Avonmouth	9.23	13.06	9.34	12.76	Margate	1.56	4.71	2.26	4.51
Belfast	1.01	3.30	1.14	3.53	Milford Haven	8.21	6.86	8.35	6.59
Cardiff	9.08	12.08	9.19	11.81	Newquay	7.12	6.9	7.27	6.6
Devonport	7.49	5.3	8.05	5.1	Oban	7.45	4.0	7.49	3.8
Dover	12.56	6.83	1.12	6.30	Penzance	6.51	5.4	7.08	5.2
Falmouth	7.19	5.1	7.35	4.9	Portland	8.46	2.0	9.01	1.8
Glasgow	3.03	4.7	3.14	5.1	Portsmouth	1.19	4.7	1.30	4.5
Harwich	1.46	3.96	2.06	3.84	Shoreham	1.24	6.28	1.34	6.08
Holyhead	12.15	5.26	12.27	5.48	Southampton	12.54	4.42	12.58	4.32
Hull	8.27	7.13	8.34	7.61	Swansea	8.26	9.24	8.38	8.87
Ilfracombe	8.06	9.04	8.14	8.77	Tees	5.49	5.03	5.55	5.29
King's Lynn	8.34	6.3	8.37	6.6	Wilton-on-Nze	1.38	4.20	2.02	4.08
Leith	4.46	5.25	5.00	5.37					

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.17 am
Sun sets: 5.14 pm
Moon rises: 8.13 am
Moon sets: 9.55 pm

London 5.14 pm to 7.17 am
Bristol 5.23 pm to 7.27 am
Edinburgh 5.14 pm to 7.41 am
Manchester 5.17 pm to 7.30 am
Penzance 5.38 pm to 7.35 am

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BUSINESS 40-44

Small is beautiful again on the stock market

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THE TIMES

MONDAY FEBRUARY 14 1994

Fraser's injury casts shadow over England's prospects

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN BARBADOS

THE latest injury setback to England's Caribbean tour has serious implications. A cracked bone in his left hand need not prevent Angus Fraser from playing in the first Test match in Kingston on Saturday but it inevitably means England will start the series with a sorely underprepared bowling attack.

No matter how elaborately the selectors dress it up, nor how easy it may be to justify, there is inescapably an element of risk in the likely choice of Fraser, vulnerable and palpably short of bowling, and Andy Caddick, still inactive with a sore shin, immediately after untimely lay-offs.

It is a dilemma akin to the trainer of the Derby favourite having to decide if his horse should still run after missing a few days' work through some minor ailment. But then, as now, the prize will usually be considered worth the gamble.

Fraser spent yesterday with his arm in a sling, a depressing sight to everyone English and especially deflating for a player whose international career is at a delicate stage. He toiled so long and so painfully on the comeback treadmill that his bowling at the Oval in August was perhaps accepted too glibly as his renaissance. In truth, he still has much to prove and, as a heavy man who thrives on regular bowling, this interruption has done him a grave disservice.

He was persuaded to go to hospital when the injury, sustained when batting as a nightwatchman, swelled up late on Saturday. The x-ray revealed two cracks above the index finger and once Dave Roberts, the England physiotherapist, had studied the negatives with the Middlesex doctor, who is holidaying here, Fraser was ruled out of the conclusion to the drawn match with Barbados yesterday and the first one-day international on Wednesday.

Keith Fletcher, the team manager, intimated that he still expects Fraser to play in the Test, and plainly he feels he needs him. Fraser will not willingly shirk the situation. For inspiration, he could even draw on the memory of Malcolm Marshall, having broken his left thumb, taking seven for 53 in the Headingley Test of 1984 and, for good measure, batting one-handed.

The risk involved, however, is admitted by Roberts. "This sort of injury takes two weeks to heal properly," he said. "If he played in Jamaica and took another blow on it, he could be out for an additional three or four weeks. I can make an objective assessment but it is up to the selectors to decide if it is a risk worth taking."

There are no plans to summon a replacement, nor yet any obvious need, but the way things are going, Mark Ilott would be wise to have his bag packed. Caddick, who has not bowled for a week, is to begin his fitness tests on Wednesday but he, at least, has form and wickets behind him. Fraser, thus far, has looked a lumbering shadow of the bowler the West Indies learned to respect here four years ago.

England's anxieties do not end with the bowling. On Saturday, they slid from 246 for three to 302 all out and the worst of it is that it came as no surprise. Atherton, Stewart and Smith remain in fine form and managed 214 runs between them but the young brigade, boldly chosen to fill the middle order ahead of Allan Lamb and David Gower, once again disappointed.

Some solace came yesterday morning in a new-ball spell from Alan Igglesden, who suddenly has a realistic chance to add to the one Test cap he gained five years ago. Igglesden removed Desmond Haynes and Philo Wallace as England briefly kept the game alive.

A stand of 77 in 102 minutes between Sherwin Campbell and Roland Holder made Barbados safe. Phil Tufnell then took two wickets in a long and skilful spell before a game that, throughout, was played without urgency, ended in a token declaration and a target, for England, of 239 in two hours.

SCOREBOARD

BARBADOS: First Innings 348 (R I C Holder 85, S L Campbell 83, P A Wallace 57; D E Malcolm 7 for 134).

Second Innings

D L Haynes b Igglesden	2
P A Wallace lbw b Igglesden	7
S G Campbell c Russell b Tufnell	54
*R I C Holder c Stewart b Hick	43
L C Puckerin lbw b Tufnell	11
†C O Browne not out	25
V C Drakes not out	34
Extras (b 5, lb 3, nb 8)	16
Total (5 wkts dec)	192

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-22, 3-99, 4-129, 5-130.

BOWLING: Malcolm 13-1-67-0; Igglesden 7-1-13-2; Tufnell 24-7-51-2; Hick 16-3-48-1; Thorpe 2-0-5-0.

ENGLAND XI: First Innings

*M A Atherton b Reid	108
A J Stewart b Drakes	47
M R Ramprakash c Browne b Gibson	6
A R C Fraser c Browne b Maynard	9
R A Smith lbw b Reid	59
G A Hick c Campbell b Gibson	20
G P Thorpe c Campbell b Drakes	16
†R C Russell lbw b Gibson	6
A P Igglesden c Browne b Gibson	3
P C R Tufnell not out	0
D E Malcolm b Gibson	0
Extras (b 1, lb 1, w 3, nb 23)	28
Total	302

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-87, 2-128, 3-149, 4-246, 5-268, 6-276, 7-288, 8-302, 9-302.

BOWLING: Gibson 32.1-11-87-5; Skeete 4-1-20-0; Drakes 28-2-82-2; Maynard 18.2-4-52-1; Reid 22-5-49-2.

Umpires: H Moore and D Holder.

THE TIMES 1st XI



With the start of the international series between West Indies and England two days away, time is short to enter *The Times* 1st XI game, which offers you the chance to pick the England team and win a trip to the Christmas Test in Australia. Details of how to enter will appear tomorrow.

Champions take single-goal advantage into Hillsborough second leg

Giggs gives United slight edge

Manchester United..... 1
Sheffield Wednesday.... 0

BY PETER BALL

THERE will be all to play for when Manchester United go to Hillsborough for the second leg of their Coca-Cola Cup semi-final with Sheffield Wednesday in nine days' time. A goal by Ryan Giggs was all that separated the teams yesterday as Wednesday successfully frustrated United for much of a tense, scrappy encounter.

The Premiership leaders hold a narrow advantage after extending their unbeaten run to 31 games, but if anything Wednesday could take more satisfaction from a match which never lived up to expectations. With both teams reaching three finals in the last four years, tension took over, and instead of the usual open game between these two sides, a frozen Old Trafford witnessed a cautious affair.

With Walker in outstanding form at the back and Palmer and Hyde covering acres of Old Trafford to stifle United's attacking ideas before they could get anywhere near Pressman, the result was something of a tactical triumph for the Yorkshire team. The home side spent most of the 90 minutes unsuccessfully searching for space as they tried to escape the blanket of blue Wednesday threw over them, only a single defensive mistake giving them their goal.

Of Wednesday as an attacking force, there was hardly a sign. "Our game plan was to make it difficult for United," Trevor Francis, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, said afterwards. "You have to remember they are one of the best counter-attacking teams in the country.

"But we got the sympathy vote for being one of the best footballing teams in the country last year, and ended up winning nothing."

Wednesday could yet find themselves in the same predicament this year, for United's away record suggests yesterday's performance could prove a tactical success. "Now thewy've got to come at us, and we're happy with that," Alex Ferguson, the manager, said.

But if Wednesday dictated the nature of the game, United did little to change its course even after Giggs provided the inspiration with his goal after 20 minutes. Nilsson underhit a back pass, but from that moment it required Giggs's talents to turn it into a goal.

Going like the wind, he rounded Pressman at the extremity of the penalty area near the by-line, then with the coolness which is part of his stamp of quality, looked up and rolled the ball home from a narrow angle.

"What I didn't legislate for was a back pass," Francis said. It was a severe setback to a side whose first object was containment, but to their credit Wednesday refused to be deflected. With Walker moving at full throttle to plug the holes, they ensured United had little to show for their superiority.

Kanchelskis and Giggs had moments when they threatened to find some reward on the flanks, but Hughes and Cantona were swamped in a mass of blue in the centre, and when Keane and Ince broke, their shots lacked the power to embarrass Pressman.

Schmeichel was a spectator as Hirst, in his first full game since September, and Bright were left to forage for themselves, Waddle making little contribution. Hirst was livelier, but when he sold Bruce a delightful dummy, Cantona got back to shoulder him aside, and it took until the last minute of the first half for Hirst to give Schmeichel his first save. He did not have to make a second.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-2-4): P Schmeichel — P Parker, S Bruce, G Pallister, D Irwin — R Keane, P Ince — A Kanchelskis, E Cantona, M Hughes, R Giggs.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — R Nilsson, A Pearce, D Walker, S Coleman — C Waddle (sub: C Bart-Williams, 71min), C Palmer, G Hyde, A Sinton — M Bright, D Hirst.
Referee: K Burge.

IAN STEWART



Cantona, of Manchester United, left, and Hyde battle for possession in the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final first leg at Old Trafford yesterday

Norwich held, page 28
Gascoigne's show, page 29

Kerrigan makes practice perfect

FROM MICHAEL COLEMAN IN LILLEHAMMER

NANCY Kerrigan, the American ice skater clubbed on the knee last month, reacted to this weekend's ruling by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) that allows her rival, Tonya Harding, to compete at the Winter Olympics by putting on a regal show as she practised her routines yesterday.

Kerrigan showed she was suffering no ill effects from the injury and that she is favourite to take gold in the women's figures event, which starts on February 23.

Harding, who has denied being implicated in the attack that forced Kerrigan to withdraw from the United States championships, was cleared to skate in the Games on Saturday night. She is expected to arrive in Norway either tomorrow or Wednesday and American team officials were yesterday attempting to arrange for the two skaters to practice separately.

However, Charles DeMore, an International Skating Union official, confirmed that the training schedule was "irrevocable" and that teammates would be obliged to train together.

Everyone with a camera or a notebook crammed into the available space as Kerrigan, looking elegant and composed, practiced and of six triple jumps, only one — the loop — needed the support of a hand on the ice. Evy and Mary Scotvold, Kerrigan's trainers, feel that the furore over the attack has distracted the skater but believe she will maintain her poise. "It's very taxing for everyone," Evy Scotvold said. "but she looks strong, and she is very determined to do what she has set out to do. She wants to forget all about the other stuff."

Kerrigan said: "Regardless of my opinion on the ruling, the Olympics have begun and it is time to skate. It has now been some 35 days since I was hit, and they have been trying ones to say the least."

Tommy Moe, of the United States, won his first men's downhill skiing race by taking the Olympic title by four hundredths of a second from Kjetil Andre Aamodt, of Norway.

Photographs, page 1 and 25
Harding frenzy, page 10
Downhill report, page 25

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THE LOAN CORPORATION

Hall makes way for Rodber against Ireland

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

TIM Rodber's return to the back row is the only change England make for their next outing in rugby union's five nations' championship, against Ireland at Twickenham on Saturday. But his colleagues are aware that judgment on the poor display against Scotland nine days ago is only suspended.

"Some of them know they are under pressure from good players," Geoff Cooke, the England team manager, said yesterday. "They can't afford two poor games." Predictably, though, Cooke and his colleagues have decided against further disruption in anticipation of a mightily-improved showing against an Irish team coming to Twickenham with nothing to lose, their aspirations for this championship having expired in two consecutive defeats.

Rodber, 24, played in the win over New Zealand last November but was forced out of the Murrayfield match by a nagging hamstring injury. Though he did not play for Northampton last Saturday, he convinced England's medical team of his ability to reclaim the place at blind-side flanker occupied by Bath's John Hall and will therefore play in the championship for the first time since 1992, when he won two caps playing at No 8.

"Tim gives us another target man at the lineout," Cooke said. "Scotland had four men who could move up and down and block us out, and while Hall is a good support player, he's never been a main target man." At 6ft 6in Rodber can also help stifle Brian Robinson, another No 8 moved to the flank by Ireland, and permit Neil Back a degree more freedom to support his backs out wide than he enjoyed in the last-gasp 15-14 win against the Scots.

Rodber, an Army lieutenant based in Catterick, has been having daily treatment for his injury but was relieved to come through training yesterday morning unscathed. "I'm delighted," he said. "They've taken a gamble but I'm sure I'll be 100 per cent and prove I'm worth the selection."

Will Carling, the captain, remained on the sidelines during the training session after having an ankle stamped on during Harlequins' league victory over Newcastle Gosforth.

France, meanwhile, named a side unchanged from that which beat Ireland 35-15 last month to play Wales at Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday.

John Mallett, the Bath prop, and Tony Diprose, the Saracens flanker, will make their first appearance in an A international against Ireland at Richmond on Friday. Mallett displaces the experienced Andy Mullins from the side that beat Italy A 15-9, while Diprose comes in for Chris Sheasby, concussed while playing for Harlequins on Saturday.

Callard on target, page 30
Leicester on course, page 30

TEAMS

ENGLAND (v Ireland): J Callard (Bath), T Underwood (Leicester), W D C Carling (Harlequins, captain), P R de Glanville (Bath), R Underwood (Leicester/RAF); C R Andrew (Wasps), K Bracken (Bristol), J Leonard (Harlequins), B C Moore (Harlequins), V E Ubogu (Bath), T A K Rodber (Northampton), M O Johnson (Leicester), M C Bayfield (Northampton), N A Back (Leicester), B B Clarke (Bath). Replacements: S Barnes (Bath), M Catt (Bath), C D Morris (Orrell), G C Rowntree (Leicester), R G R Dawe (Bath), S O Ojomoh (Bath).

FRANCE (v Wales): J-L Sadourny (Colomiers); P Bernat-Salles (Pau), P Sella (Agen), T Lacroix (Dax), P Saint-André (Montlemard), A Penaud (Brive), F Gastiné (Colomiers), P Gallart (Bidard), J-M Gonzales (Bayonne), L Armary (Lourdes), P Benetton (Agen), O Merle (Grenoble), O Roumat (Dax, captain), A Benazzi (Agen), M Cecillon (Bourgoin) Replacements: S Graou (Auch), X Blond (Racing Club), L Loppy (Toulon), A Macabiau (Perpignan), E N'Tamack (Toulouse), P Montlaur (Agen)

Wigan avoid cup loss by overhauling Hull lead

Hull 21
Wigan 22

By Christopher Irvine

PERHAPS the fates are permanently with Wigan but at 21-2 down, the door, if not padlocked, looked firmly closed on them extending their six-year domination of rugby league's Silk Cut Challenge Cup. What occurred next was compared to Houdini's escape from the Hudson River by a hoarse radio commentator to his listeners.

Certainly it was the comeback to surpass all comebacks. Like Wigan's performance, Hull's was a Jeckyll and Hyde affair, only their worst was saved until last. Once Wigan had a sniff of recovery, and a try with two seconds of the first half remaining was the turning point, an irresistible force chipped away at the lead of the home side.

Hull could see what was happening, yet their butter-fingered hands could do nothing to prevent it. The relief of the Wigan players was palpable. Not even the dramatic dropped goal that beat Halifax 19-18 in last year's quarter finals compared, as the outcome of yesterday's fifth round tie seemed a forgone conclusion after 40 minutes.

After a quite abject display at Warrington the previous week, Hull were a revelation. Wigan stood mesmerised by the perpetual motion of Hasler, the stand-off half, scorer of the first try and against a buffeting wind, were *torn to shreds* through the middle of the field.

With his first touch, Divet Dibbett, the French forward, shot clear from 30 yards for Hull, after coming on as a substitute. A dropped goal by McNamara followed and when Sharp burrowed over after a fine interception by Sterling, the fourth of Eastwood's goals left Wigan bewildered.

When Edwards launched a crossfield kick to the right corner and Mather pounced, it was a faint glimmer of hope they required at half-time. The fight back proper did not begin until the 59th minute, after Connolly was brought down, but still managed to release Mather for his second try.

No second invitation was required. Dermott, a tower of strength throughout, found Panapa free on the right with a lovely pass. Botica converted twice from either touchline.

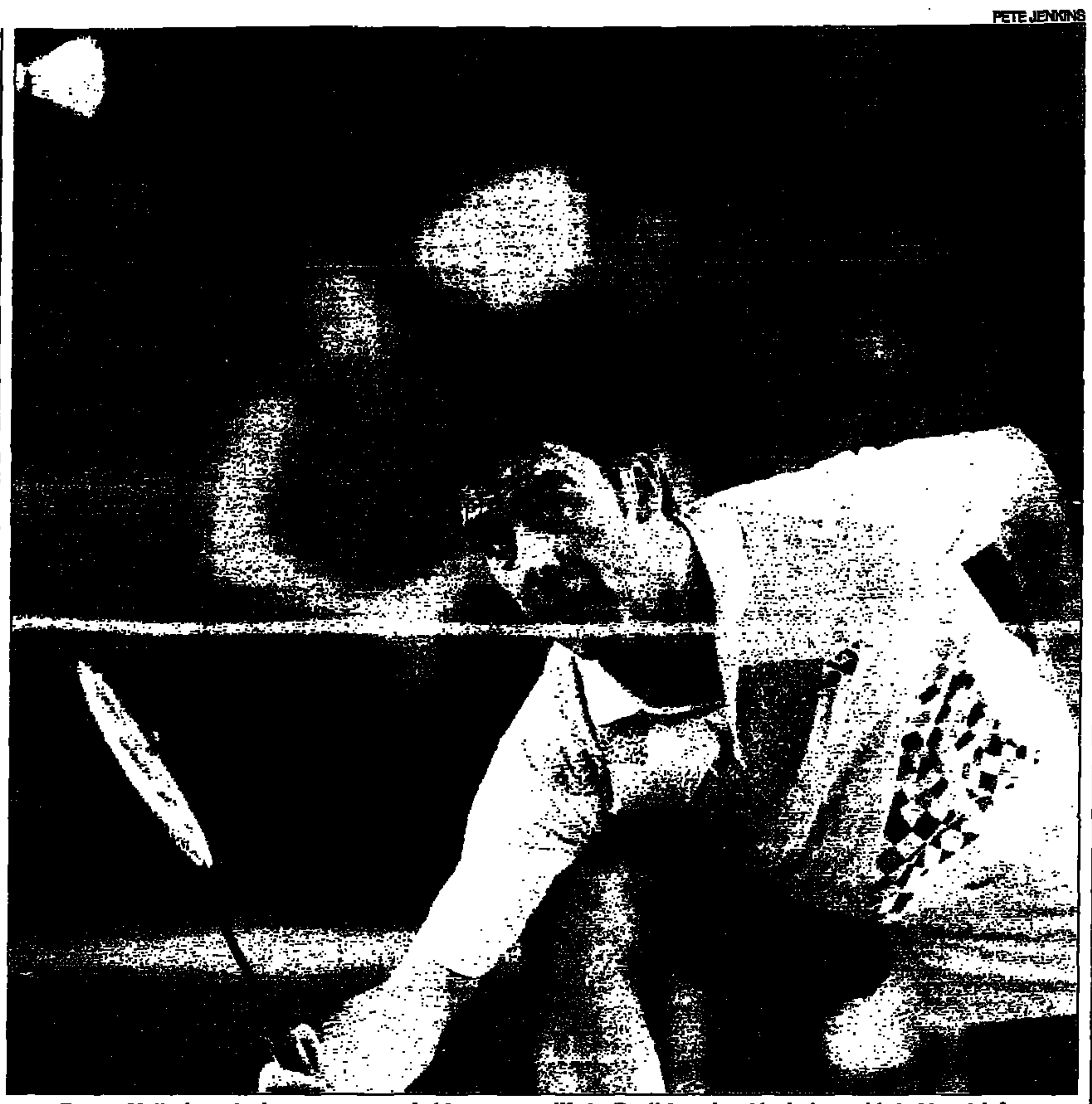
The *coup de grace* was applied when Divet, suicidally aimed a wild pass on the first tackle, and Edwards and Gildart were quickly up to send in Farrell ten minutes from the end. Eastwood had a final penalty kick, but Hull's luck had long since evaporated.

John Dorahy, the Wigan coach, declared: "That was better than anything Houdini ever did! The first half was our worst 40 minutes of the season. Our defence was terrible and our attack lacked direction and support. We allowed Hull to dictate things."

SCORERS: Hull: Tries: Hasler, Divet, Sharp. Goals: Eastwood (4). Droppped goal: McNamara. Wigan: Tries: Mather (2), Panapa, Farrell. Goals: Botica (3).
HULL: R Gay; P Eastwood, G Nolan, J Grant, P Sterling; D Hasler, M Hewitt, S McNamara, M Dixon, T Street, J Sharp, J Doyle, D Busby.
WIGAN: J Lydon; J Robinson, B Mather, G Connolly, M Offiah; S Panapa, F Botica, K Skerrett, M Dermott, A Platt, M Cassidy, W McGinty, A Farrell.
Referee: D Campbell.

☐ Doncaster, from the second division, earned a place in the Challenge Cup quarter-finals for only the second time in 24 years with an emphatic, 20-0 victory against Oldham, of the Premier League. Audley Pennant, the Doncaster forward, scored two tries and won the man-of-the-match award.

PETE JENKINS



Darren Hall, above, had an easy passage in his attempt to lift the English national badminton title in Norwich for a seventh time when his opponent, Peter Bush, left mysteriously before their semi-final yesterday. Report, page 25

McManus hopes history will not repeat itself

By Phil Yates

ALAN McManus spent the three-hour interruption between sessions in the Benson & Hedges Masters snooker final yesterday fervently hoping that recent history would not repeat itself.

Nine days ago, McManus led Steve Davis 4-3 at the halfway stage of the Regal Welsh Open final only to lose 9-6. After the afternoon's play at Wembley Conference Centre, McManus held an identical advantage over another of the game's luminaries, Stephen Hendry.

Having appeared in the final of six leading tournaments and the semi-finals of eleven others without winning a title, McManus was under considerably more pressure than his compatriot in what was the first all-Scottish climax to a major competition.

Although he constantly brushes off questions about being a perennial nearly man as a minor irritation, McManus is extremely eager, if not desperate, to be a winner. Losing in finals may be financially rewarding, but for one so dedicated as McManus it has become increasingly demoralising.

McManus grossed £230,682 in prize money last season and stands fifth in the latest provisional World Rankings as well as being arguably the most consistant player on the circuit. The final piece in the jigsaw of success for any player, though, is undoubtedly a high profile title.

However, pressure manifests itself in a variety of ways. Hendry went into the best of 17 frames contest attempting to become the Masters champion for a sixth successive year and extend his unbeaten run since his debut in the event in 1989 to 24 matches.

Hendry was nowhere near his best in beating James Wattana 6-2 in the semi-final on Saturday and when he lost the first three frames yesterday, McManus must have sensed that a substantial first session lead was there for the taking. In first with 46 in the opening frame, Hendry narrowly missed a plant to a middle pocket. McManus responded with an 83 clearance, added a 55 break for 2-0 and stole the third on the pink with a late 31 following Hendry's failure to roll the penultimate red into its intended pocket across the top cushion.

Hendry's ability to play fluently in difficult circumstances stood him in good stead in the next three frames. The World Champion compiled breaks of 37, 38, 115 and 67 to level at 3-3 before McManus, in first with 61, won frame 7 for a 4-3 lead.

McManus beat Hendry 5-4 in the quarter finals of the Welsh Open, but with such a heavy burden of expectation on his shoulders, the bookmakers' decision to retain Hendry as a short-priced favourite seemed the most astute assessment.

Hendry, who had already earned £457,000 in first prizes during his five years of Masters domination, could not complain about a lack of monetary incentives.

Apart from the obvious carrot of the winner's cheque of £150,000, Hendry's main sponsors, Sweater Shop, offered a £50,000 bonus should he protect his 100% record at Wembley.

McManus beat Neal Foulds 6-4 to reach the final. He looked to be heading for an emphatic victory when he led Foulds 4-1, but the Londoner won the next three frames to draw level before McManus stopped the rot.

SEMI-FINALS: S Hendry (Scot) bt J Wattana (Thai) 6-2. Frame scores (Hendry first): 68-12, 60-48, 4-76, 75-1, 61-36, 12-89, 62-1, 99-0. A McManus (Scot) bt N Foulds (Eng) 6-4. Frame scores (McManus first): 35-89, 75-13, 87-25, 121-8, 50-47, 38-83, 38-90, 34-83, 70-15, 65-5.

FINAL: McManus leads Hendry 4-3. Frame scores (McManus first): 83-46, 78-25, 68-52, 0-83, 0-127, 43-75, 67-21.

ICC Trophy gets off to damp start

By Our Sports Staff

KENYA, Holland and Bermuda justified their top seedings with emphatic wins in a soggy start to the 1994 ICC trophy in Nairobi yesterday. The hosts overcame Israel with embarrassing ease at the Premier Club, where David, the youngest of three talented Tikolo brothers, took four wickets as Israel struggled to 99 all out. Kenya rushed home in 15 overs against a feeble attack.

Holland also won by nine wickets against Malaysia, and Bermuda lost only two batsmen passing West Africa's score of 93.

It will take another day of storms to prevent Bangladesh from making it a clean sweep for the leading four teams, for they dismissed Argentina for 120 in 43.2 overs before rain intervened. But more unsettled weather is forecast.

When Kenya first applied to stage the event they promised the organising committee three weeks of sunshine. But locals fear the rainy season may be starting early.

Papua New Guinea could upset the ambitions of Holland and Ireland in Group A. The Pacific islanders showed professional acceleration in adding 68 runs of their final six overs to reach 248 for five and then ran through Gibraltar for 113.

The Pakistan leg spinner, Mushtaq Ahmed, is to return home to rest a lower back injury received during the first Test against New Zealand at Auckland, which Pakistan won by five wickets on Saturday. Aamir Sohail made a dashing 78 to help Pakistan overcome the loss of early wickets as they pursued a target of 138.

Akram Reza, an off spinner who has played in three Tests, will be Mushtaq's replacement in the touring party.

India's left-arm spinner Venkatapathy Raju, who took six for 87 in the Sri Lanka second innings, had career-best match figures of 11 for 125 in the Ahmedabad Test which India won by an innings and 17 runs to take the series 3-0.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

GLASGOW: International match: Men: Britain 71 United States 57. Men: 60m: 1, L Christie (GB) 6.53sec; 2, C Jackson (GB) 6.55; 3, M Rosswess (guest) 6.66. 200m: 1, J Regis (GB) 20.74; 2, 3 Wariso (GB) 21.10; 3, J Hendrix (US) 21.37. 400m: 1, A Pettigrew (US) 46.04; 2, M Richardson (GB) 46.21; 3, D Hall (US) 46.27; 4, D Ladejo (GB) 46.43. 800m: 1, G Brown (GB) 1min 47.63sec; 2, C Winrow (guest) 1:47.78; 3, M Everett (US) 1:48.87; 5, T McKean (GB) 2:03.32. 1,500m: 1, M Dailey (US) 3:46.20; 2, M De Freitas (GB) 3:46.23; 3, M Hibbert (guest) 3:47.44; 6, M Steele (GB) 3:56.20. 3,000m: 1, J Mayock (GB) 7:55.31; 2, R Finch (GB) 7:56.03; 3, D Lopez (US) 8:07.69. 60m hurdles: 1, C Jackson (GB) 7.36 (equals world indoor record); 2, T Jarrett (GB) 7.58; 3, A Johnson (US) 7.59; 4, H Teape (guest) 7.72; 5, G Terry (US) 7.73; 6, K Campbell (guest) 7.99. 4 x 200m relay: 1, GB 1:24.13; 2, US 1:24.31. Long jump: 1, B Williams (GB) 7.61m; 2, A Turner (US) 7.52; 3, D Gildersleeve (US) 7.33; 4, F Salle (GB) 7.27. Shot: 1, K Toth (US) 20.62; 2, C Hunter (US) 20.13; 3, P Edwards (GB) 19.38; 4, M Proctor (GB) 17.17. Pole vault: 1, M Holloway (US) 5.40; 2, A Ashurst (GB) 5.20; 3, G Duplantis (US) 5.20; 4, D Mellor (GB) 4.60. Triple jump: 1, J Golley (GB) 16.76; 2, J Edwards (GB) 16.71; 3, R Jones (US) 16.26. High jump: 1, S Smith (GB) 2.32; 2, S Smith (US) 2.26; 3, D Grant (GB) 2.26.

Women: Britain 62 United States 56. 60m: 1, H Hyche (US) 7.21; 2, C Games (US) 7.37; 3, M Richardson (GB) 7.38; 4, S Smith (GB) 7.51. 200m: 1, K Merry (GB) 23.00 (UK indoor record); 2, H Hyche (US) 23.01; 3, F Harris (US) 23.51; 4, S Smith (GB) 24.77. 400m: 1, S Gunnell (GB) 52.34; 2, C Irving (US) 55.25; 3, C Raven (GB) 56.39. 800m: 1, F Davies (GB) 2:08.26; 2, D Gandy (GB) 2:08.50; 3, D Marshall (US) 2:08.74. 1,500m: 1, L Gibson (GB) 4:25.32; 2, K Wade (GB) 4:26.05; 3, G Procaccio (US) 4:26.15. 3,000m: 1, S McGeorge (GB) 9:08.60; 2, K Franey (US) 9:09.80; 3, C Palacios (US) 9:11.07; 4, D Gunning (GB) 9:15.11. 60m hurdles: 1, C Court (GB) 8.12; 2, S Farquharson (GB) 8.14; 3, D Bowles (US) 8.20. 4 x 200m relay: 1, US 1:33.24 (UK all-comers record); 2, GB 1:36.23. High jump: 1, A Bradburn (US) 1.93; 2, Y Henry (US) 1.83; 3, J Jennings (GB) 1.83; 4, J Major (GB) 1.75. Shot: 1, C Price-Smith (US) 18.03; 2, M Lynes (GB) 16.13; 3, A Grey (GB) 15.85. Triple jump: 1, M Griffith (GB) 13.85; 2, C Rhodes (US) 13.49; 3, S Hudson (US) 13.41; 4, R Kirby (GB) 13.14. Long jump: 1, Y Idowu (GB) 6.51m; 2, S Couch (US) 6.22; 3, C Jackson (US) 5.87; 4, D Lewis (GB) 5.82.

TOKYO: Men's marathon: 1, S Moneghetti (Aus) 2hr 8min 55sec; 2, V Rousseau (Bel) 2:09.08; 3, T Hayata (Japan) 2:10:19; 4, K Jitsui (Japan) 2:11:10; 5, A Mekonnen (Eth) 2:12:13; 6, Pak Seung-do (S Kor) 2.12.54.

FARO, Portugal: World Challenge Series cross-country: Men (10,000m): 1, O Ondoro (Ken) 29min 10sec; 2, J Kanuki (Ken) 29:33; 3, P Guerra (Por) 29.39; 4, L Jesus (Por) 29:53; 5, C Omwoyo (Kenya) 30:04. Women (6,000m): 1, C McKiernan (Ire) 19:34; 2, M Keszeg (Rom) 19.40; 3, T Lorupe (Ken) 19:43; 4, A Dias (Por) 19:45; 5, I Negura (Rom) 20:11.

LIEVIN, France: Women's triple jump: I Lasovskaya (Russ) 14.30m (world indoor record).

BADMINTON

NORWICH: English national championships: Men's singles: Quarter-finals: D Hall (Essex) bt C Haughton (Lancs) 15-9, 15-3; P Knowles (Kent) bt S Pandya (Staffs) 15-4, 15-4; P Bush (Wilts) bt P Smith (Surrey) 15-3, 17-15; A Nielsen (Surrey) bt A Bush (Wilts) 15-6, 15-4. Semi-finals: Knowles bt Nielsen 15-12, 15-8; Hall wo Bush, scr. Men's doubles: Semi-finals: S Archer (Worcs) and C Hunt (Lancs) bt M Adams and D Wright (Yorks) 15-4, 15-3; N Ponting (Herts) and J Robertson (Northants) bt N Cottrill and J Quinn (Middx) 15-9, 12-15, 15-6. Women's singles: Quarter-finals: S Louis Lane (Devon) bt E Chalfin (Surrey) 11-2, 11-0; A Humby (Hants) bt S Ho (Yorks) 11-0, 11-1; F Smith (Surrey) bt B Blair (Dev) 11-5, 11-3; S Hore (Hants) bt W Taylor (Surrey) 11-4, 11-3. Semi-finals: Louis Lane bt Humby 6-11, 11-6, 11-2; Smith bt Hore 11-3, 12-10. Women's doubles: Semi-finals: G Clark (Surrey) and J Bradbury (Oxon) bt N Beck (Bucks) and E Chalfin (Surrey) 15-5, 15-0; G Gowers (Herts) and J Wright (Sussex) bt T Dineen (Essex) and A Humby (Hants) 15-6, 15-9. Mixed doubles: Semi-finals: N Ponting (Herts) and J Wright (Sussex) bt D Wright (Yorks) and G Gowers (Herts) 15-3, 15-9; C Hunt (Lancs) and G Clark (Surrey) bt J Robertson (Northants) and J Bradbury (Oxon) 15-9, 18-15.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester 92 (Book 32, Casey 22, Bannister 14) Hemel Hempstead 78 (Pringle 19, Koochof 18, Carty 15); Oldham 78 (Brooks 17, Mowinski, Taylor 16) Doncaster 85 (Mitchell 28, Harvey, Joseph 15), Sunderland 65 (Saunders 17, A Hopper, Douglas 14) Manchester 68 (Gordon 18, Fife 12, Samuels, Craven 11); Thames Valley 115 (Lloyd 32, P Scantlebury 23, Holley 22) Derby 94 (Samon 23, Lascelles, Gardiner 21); Worthing 106 (Irish 28, Hamed 27, Lewis 25) London Towers 83 (Bowers 34, R Scantlebury 20, Moore 15).

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Coventry 81 Brixton 71, Sheffield 70 Plymouth 55, Solent 89 Cardiff 86. Second division: Chiltern 65 Lewisham 63, Stevenage 90 Nottingham 85.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL TROPHY: Semi-finals: Leicester 53 Cardiff 56.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Chester 60 Birmingham 82; Rhondda 54 London Jets 43, Sheffield 84 Northampton 73. Second division: London Heat 70 Doncaster 40; Spelthorne 66 Plymouth 39.

CRESTA RUN

GRAND NATIONAL: 1, J Sunley (GB) 156.77sec; 2, J Badrutt (Switz) 158.02; 3, G Pitsch (Switz) 159.33; 4, G Cattaneo (Switz) 160.29; 5, F Gansser (Switz) 160.84; 6, R Tice (GB) 161.70.

EQUESTRIANISM

BRUSSELS: Volvo World Cup qualifier: 1, Apricot D (H Simon, Austria) clear, 29.44sec; 2, San Patrignano Weihaiwej (F Sloothaak, Ger) clear, 29.80; 3, Constantijn (J Smit, It) clear, 31.21. British placings: 5, Everest Midnight Madness (M Whitaker) 4 faults, 29.87; 9, Everest Flairpath (V Whitaker) 8, 33.12. European League (after 11 events): 1, J Lansink (Hol) 96pts; 2, M Whitaker 77; 3, Sloothaak 62. Grand Slam (after third of four events): 1, Sloothaak 81pts; 2, L Beerbaum (Ger) 63; 3, D Hafemeister (Ger) 62. British placings: 6 M Whitaker 44, 8 J Whitaker 39.

FOOTBALL

WOMEN'S FA CUP: Sixth round: Arsenal 0 Knowsley 1; Doncaster 5 Brighton 1; Epsom and Ewell 2 Leasowe 3; Preston 2 Stanton 3.

GOLF

DURBAN: Mount Edgecombe Trophy: Final scores (South Africa unless stated): 275: B Vaughan (US) 72, 70, 70, 63 (won play-off at second extra hole); T Johnstone (Zim) 68, 71, 68, 68. 281: H Baiocchi 67, 71, 74, 69. P Jonas 76, 67, 67, 71. 283: E Els 71, 72, 73, 67. R Wessels 66, 74, 74, 67. W Westner 73, 70, 68, 72. 285: B Lidde 74, 70, 71, 70. 286: D Gammon 71, 69, 75, 71. R Goosen 75, 73, 70, 68. 287: S Dunlap (US) 71, 76, 69, 71. C Davison (GB) 73, 67, 73, 74. B Lincoln 74, 73, 71, 69; S Pappas 71, 72, 75, 69.

CRICKET

AUCKLAND (first Test): *Pakistan beat New Zealand by five wickets*

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings 242 (A H Jones 66, Waqar Younis 4 for 46)

Second Innings 110 (Wasim Akram 6 for 43).

PAKISTAN: First Innings 215 (S B Doull 5 for 66).

Second Innings

Saeed Anwar c Young b de Groen	7
Aamir Sohail c Young b Thomson	78
Asif Mujtaba c and b Doull	0
*Salim Malik c Young b de Groen	11
Basit Ali c and b Doull	7
Inzamam-ul-Haq not out	20
†Rashid Latif not out	13
Extras (lb 3, nb 2)	5
Total (5 wkts)	141

Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed and Ata-ur-Rehman did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-25, 3-56, 4-73, 5-119

BOWLING: Cairns 6-1-15-0, de Groen 13-3-48-2; Doull 16-0-48-2; Owens 2-0-10-0, Thomson 4-1-17-1

Man of the match: Wasim Akram.

Umpires: H D Bird (England) and S Dunne (New Zealand)

AHMEDABAD (third Test): *India beat Sri Lanka by an innings and 17 runs*

SRI LANKA: First Innings 119 (S L V Raju 5 for 38).

Second Innings

R S Mahanama lbw b Raju	63
D Samaraweera run out	20
H P Tillakaratne c Azharuddin b Raju	40
P A de Silva c Azharuddin b Chauhan	14
*A Ranatunga c Sidhu b Raju	29
M Atapattu c Mongia b Chauhan	0
R S Kalpage c Azharuddin b Chauhan	9
†P B Dassanayake not out	21
S D Anurasiri c Prabhakar b Raju	6
G P Wickremasinghe c Prabhakar b Raju	0
M Muralitharan c Mongia b Raju	4
Extras (b 4, lb 11, nb 1)	16
Total	222

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-70, 2-98, 3-149, 4-149, 5-153, 6-167, 7-193, 8-214, 9-214

BOWLING: Prabhakar 5-2-11-0, Kapil Dev 5-1-12-0; Raju 32.3-9-87-6, Kumble 28-9-45-0 Chauhan 30-14-45-3, Tendulkar 4-1-7-0.

INDIA: First Innings 358 (M Azharuddin 152, V G Kambli 57)

Man of the match: M Azharuddin

TOUR MATCH: Verwoerdburg (first day of four) Australians 363 (D M Jones 85, M J Slater 51, M L Hayden 50) and 10-0, Northern Transvaal 209 (D van Zyl 63 not out; P R Reiffel 4 for 27)

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Hobart: Queensland 339 (G Foley 52) and 208-9 dec; Tasmania 248 (D Tazelaar 5-49) and 293-6. Match drawn

RED STRIPE CUP: Berbice: Guyana 341 (R Harper 79, S Dhaniram 57, K Benjamin 4-60) and 222 (S Chanderpaul 73, K Semple 67; L Weekes 4-54, W Phillips 4-67); Leeward Islands 299 (W Benjamin 71, L Harrigan 62, R Harper 5-61)

CASTLE CUP: Johannesburg: Transvaal 418-7 dec (J Cook 110, M Rushmere 82 not out, D Cullinan 66) and 31-3. Orange Free State 327-9 dec (F Stephenson 78, R Steyn 64, K Venter 63). Stellenbosch: Boland 351 (M Erasmus 73, P DeFreitas 68, J Commins 55, N Johnson 5-79) and 246-7 (K Jackson 61), Natal 306 (A Hudson 92, M Marshall 73)

CYCLING

ROAD RACES: Paris Pedal Race (Rowland's Castle, Hampshire 45 miles): 1, C Langley (CC Luton) 1hr 58min 30sec; 2, R Hayles (Team Haverhill) at 15sec; 3, N Perry (FS Maestro) same time. Springtime Pursuit (Newton Abbot, Devon, 36 miles): 1, M Woodward (CS Purbeck) 1.33.45; 2, A Parker (Mid-Devon CC) at 5sec; 3, J Fabrizio (Wellington Wheelers) at 20sec.

TIME-TRIALS: Ely and District CC Hardriders' (25 miles): 1, A Allon (Team Haverhill) 58 57; 2, R Boundy (CC Breckland) 1.00 39; 3, M St Leger (GS Vassa) 1.03.24. Team: Polytechnic CC, 3 30.19. Bejaoss Wheelers Two-up (Bedford, 14.5 miles): 1, S Howes and A McCaffrey (Invicta RC) 32:00; 2, D State and D Jennings (Leicester University CC) 33:08; 3, G Fisher and L Pick (Icknield RC) 34:04. Kingston Wheelers Sporting (Ripley, Surrey, 14 miles): 1, R Thorne (Polytechnic CC) 35.20; 2, G Dodd (Kingston Phoenix) 35.24; 3, L Winterbottom (Hounslow and District Wheelers) 35 44. Team: Hounslow and District, 1.49-36. Heron RC (Budleigh, Devon, 10 miles): 1, P Roberts (Plymouth Corinthian CC) 24.08; 2, K Vale (VC Camelot) 24:30; 3, D Bentley (VC St Raphael) 24 31.

CYCLO-CROSS: Huddersfield Star Wheelers (Marsden, 10 miles): 1, C Young (PCA) 48.50; 2, N Clough (Swaledale CC) at 46sec; 3, J Taylor (Huddersfield RC) at 1.48. Dartford Wheelers (Greenwich, 14 miles): 1, R Eden (Magic) 1 08 43; 2, B Curtis (Festival RC) at 2.39; 3, D Butcher (Dartford Wheelers) at 2 laps. Salisbury RC (Romsey, 9 miles): 1, A MacDonald (GS Europa) 59:56; 2, C Atkins (Crabwood CC) at 10sec; 3, V Stone (Salisbury RC) at 1 00. Milton Keynes CC (Campbell Park, 9 miles): 1, S Knight (Halesowen A and CC), 56.20; 2, M Booth (Long Eaton ATB), at 1 10; 3, M Jauncey (Royal Sutton CC), at 1.30. Mildenhall CC (15 miles): 1, D Barnett (Ace RT), 56:04; 2, C Thompson (CC Romford), at 1:20; 3, J McAndrew (Over the Hill), at 2:08. CC Todmorden (10 miles): 1, I Sidebotham (Crag MBC, Bury), 1:02:23; 2, B Green (Oldham Century RC), at 2:44; 3, S Green (Oldham Century), at 3:24.

TOUR OF THE MEDITERRANEAN: Final overall placings: 1, D Cassani (It) 17hr 33min 47sec; 2, E Berzin (Russ) at 53sec; 3, L Brochard (Fr) 1:28; 4, A Noe (It) 1:39; 5, C Mottet (Fr) 1:50. British placing: 65, C Boardman 13:04.

TOUR OF ANDALUSIA: Final overall placings: 1, S Della Santa (It) 24:31:14; 2, L Roosen (Bel) at 1min 7sec; 3, F Cabello (Sp) 1:17; 4, B Hamburger (Den) 1:43; 5, V Ekimov (Russ) 1:50.

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 9 Humberside 5, Durham 4 Bracknell 9; Fife 5 Sheffield 4; Murrayfield 15; Whitley Bay 1, Nottingham 20 Billingham 6; Peterborough 6 Cardiff 17. First division: Guildford 9 Dumfries 7; Paisley 16 Lee Valley 7; Romford 4 Milton Keynes 6, Slough 10 Chelmsford 5; Swindon 8 Blackburn 9; Telford 25 Oxford 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: Buffalo 5 Montreal 1; Detroit 6 Philadelphia 3; Winnipeg 1 Toronto 3; Anaheim 3 Los Angeles 5, Calgary 4 Hartford 1, San Jose 4 Chicago 3. Saturday: Dallas 9 Pittsburgh 3; Boston 5 New Jersey 3; Florida 4 New York Islanders 3, Vancouver 3 Tampa Bay 2; Calgary 3 Toronto 2, Hartford 5 Edmonton 2; Montreal 5 Quebec 2; New York Rangers 4 Ottawa 3 (OT), Detroit 5 St Louis 4 (OT); Washington 6 Los Angeles 1

LACROSSE

MARLBOROUGH: All England women's territorial championships: Saturday: West 3 North 5, South 9 Combined Universities 4; Midlands 9 East 4; North 12 Combined Universities 4. Yesterday: East 4 South 9; West 6 Combined Universities 3; Midlands 4 North 8, West 4 East 7

MEN'S SENIOR FLAGS: Semi-final: Mellor 7 Stockport 3.

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Lacoste British open championship: Semi-finals: N Smith bt T Cockroft 17-18, 15-10, 15-8, 15-9, 15-12, R Owen-Browne bt W Boone 17-18, 15-10, 15-7, 15-3. Final: Smith bt Owen-Browne 15-7, 15-12, 15-9, 11-15, 6-15, 8-15, 15-6.

TABLE TENNIS

BRENTWOOD: European championships qualifying tournament: Men: Semi-finals: B Billington (Derbys) bt N Mason (Sussex) 21-10, 21-13, 21-18, S Andrew (Essex) bt G Solder (Essex) 21-19, 21-12, 23-21. Final: Billington bt Andrew 25-23, 23-21, 15-21, 21-11. Women: Semi-finals: F Mommessin (Staffs) bt H Lower (Staffs) 21-19, 21-17, 21-19, G Schwarz (Berks) bt L Radford (Essex) 21-15, 21-19, 18-21, 13-21, 21-15. Final: Mommessin bt Schwarz 21-14, 21-18, 21-15.

HOCKEY

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP: Quarter-finals: Harrogate 0, Reading 7, Old Loughtonians 3, Havant 0; Southgate 2, Hounslow 2 (aet; Hounslow won 6-5 on penalty strokes). Teddington 2, Beeston 1.

PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Saturday: Firebrands 1 Hounslow 3, Indian Gymkhana 2 Stourport 1, Reading 1 Canterbury 1; Southgate 2 Havant 3, St Albans 0 Old Loughtonians 4; Teddington 6 Bromley 0, Trojans 1 East Grinstead 0. Postponed: Bournville v Cannock. Yesterday: Firebrands 3 Canterbury 3, Slough 1 Wolton 3. Second division: Barford Tigers 2 Cambridge City 0; Beeston 1 Brooklands 2; Doncaster 0 Harborne 1, Gloucester City 3 Richmond 3; Harleston Magpies 2 Oxford University 0; Isca 2 Guildford 4; Neston 2 Edgbaston 4; Surbiton 2 Cheltenham 1, Warrington 2 Sheffield 2

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bedford 1 Old Southendian 2; Bluoharts 3 Dereham 1; Cambridge University 4 Pelicans 1; Chelmsford 3 Stevenage 1; Colchester 2 Luton 1; Ipswich 1 Norwich City 1; Redbridge and Ilford 4 Bury St Edmunds 0; Welwyn Garden City 1 Bishops Stortford 2; Westcliff 0 Crostyx 3.

ERNST AND YOUNG MIDLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich 0 Finchfield 3; Coventry and North Warwickshire 3 Leicester Westleigh 0; Hampton-in-Arden 0 Belper 1; Khalsa 1 Lichfield 0; Olton and West Warwickshire 3 Worcester Norton 1.

ERNST AND YOUNG NORTH PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding 1 Southport 3; Blackburn 1 Hightown-Northern 1; Norton 0 Formby 3; Timperley 5 York 2.

NASTRO AZZURRO SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Anchorians 1 Maidenhead 1; Chichester 0 Lyons 4; Fareham 1 Mid Sussex 0; Gore Court 3 Oxford Hawks 2; Hampstead and Westminster 2 Hendon 0; High Wycombe 2 Wimbledon 1; Old Kingstonians 2 Dulwich 0; Staines 0 City Of Portsmouth 1; Tulse Hill 1 Old Walcountians 4. Postponed: Spencer v Winchester

SUN LIFE WEST LEAGUE: First division: Brean 0 Whitchurch 9; Hereford 2 Exeter University 0; Swansea 1 Plymouth 0.

Women

AEWHA CUP: Fourth round: Aldridge 1 Cheltenham 0; Basingstoke 0 Exmouth 1; Bluoharts 0 Slough 1; Bradford wo Weston-super-Mare, scr; Canterbury 1 Ealing 1 (2-3 on penalty strokes); Chelmsford 1 Ormskirk 0; Doncaster 1 Pickwick 0; FP Sutton Coldfield 6 Wimbourne 0; Hightown 4 Woking 0, Loughborough Students 4 Worthing 2; Newcastle 0 Guildford 1; North Staffs 1 Ipswich 4, Tulse Hill wo Colwall, scr; Welwyn Garden City 0 Olton and West Warwickshire 3; Whitley Bay 0 Bracknell 0 (1-0 pens); Wimbledon 0 Balsam Leicester 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Clifton 0 Slough 4; FP Sutton Coldfield 2 Ealing 0, Hightown 1 Balsam Leicester 0; Ipswich 4 Chelmsford 1. First division: Bluoharts 0 Bradford Swithenbank 2; Doncaster 3 Bracknell 0, Exmouth 0 Wimbledon 2, Pickwick 0 Trojans 1. Second division: Canterbury 2 Woking 0; Olton 1 Harleston Magpies 3; Sherwood 1 Great Harwood 1; Sunderland Bedans 2 Colwall 0.

NORTH LEAGUE: Carlisle 0 Chester 1; Liverpool 1 Ormskirk 2; Newcastle 2 York 0; Poynton 2 Springfields 1.

SOUTH LEAGUE: Camberley 0 Dulwich 1; Cheam 1 Ealing B 1; Guildford 0 City of Portsmouth 1, Reading 6 Southampton 0; West Witney 0 Worthing 1; Winchmore Hill 1 Winchester 1

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup
Fifth round

Doncaster 20 Oldham 0
Doncaster: Tries: Pennant 2, D Evans, Tomlinson. Goals: Bloem 2. Att: 2,872.

Hull 21 Wigan 22
Hull: Tries: Divet, Hasler, Sharp. Goals: Eastwood 4. Dropped goal: McNamara. Wigan: Tries: Mather 2, Farrell, Panapa. Goals: Botica 3. Att: 11,117.

Hull KR 8 Featherstone 30
Hull KR: Try: Sodje. Goals: M Fletcher 2. Featherstone: Tries: Pearson 2, Butt, Calland, Molloy. Goals: Pearson 5. Att: 3,091.

Keighley 14 Castleford 52
Keighley: Tries: Brookes-Cowden, A Eyres, Hall. Goal: Walker. Castleford: Tries: Middleton 2, Anderson, Blackmore, Ellis, Kemp, Morrison, Nikau, Smales, Steadman. Goals: Crooks 6. Att: 5,850

Whitehaven 4 St Helens 46
Whitehaven: Try: Fisher. St Helens: Tries: Joynt 3, Cooper, Hunte, Martyn, Pickavance, Riley, Ropati. Goals: P Loughlin 5. Att: 4,500.

Widnes 22 Sheffield 6
Widnes: Tries: Hammond, P Hulme, McCurrie. Goals: Goulding 5. Sheffield: Try: Fraisse. Goal: Aston. Att: 4,427.

Workington 0 Bradford 32
Bradford: Tries: Fairbank 2, Kebbie 2, R Powell, Summers. Goals: Fox 4. Att: 4,600.

Saturday

Leeds 38 Warrington 4
Leeds: Tries: Fallon 2, Innes 2, Harley, Iro, Schofield. Goals: Holroyd 5. Warrington: Try: Myler. Att: 9,713.

Stones Bitter Championship
Second division

Batley 29 London Crus 18
Carlisle 18 Dewsbury 40
Highfield 0 Swinton 10

BNFL NATIONAL CUP: Third round: South Bradford 6 Saddleworth 32; Leigh MW 19 Sharlston 6.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Dudley Hill 10 West Hull 33; Hemel Hempstead 20 Askam 10; Wigan St Patricks 52 Nottingham City 10; Woolston 18 Chorley 6

TENNIS

SUNDERLAND: LTA women's satellite tournament: Finals: Singles: G Coorengel (Hol) bt M Maruska (Austria) 6-2, 7-5. Doubles: Coorengel and A Smith (Staffs) bt C Staasen (Hol) and N Tijssen (Hol) 3-6, 6-1, 6-2.

COVENTRY: LTA men's indoor satellite tournament: Singles: Semi-finals: M Barnard (SA) bt F Cousin (Bel) 6-1, 6-1; E Ferreira (SA) bt A Vysand (Est) 2-6, 6-4, 6-4. Final: Barnard bt Ferreira 7-5, 6-3. Doubles: Final: A Vizner and T Krupa (Cz) bt H Jolle (SA) and M Shyjan (US) 6-3, 6-3.

CHICAGO: Women's tournament: Quarter-finals: M Maleeva (Bul) bt M Navratilova (US) 6-4, 6-3. Semi-finals: N Zvereva (Belo) bt L McNeil (US) 6-3, 7-6; C Rubin (US) bt M Maleeva (Bul) 7-6, 2-0, ret.

MILAN: Men's tournament: Quarter-finals: Semi-finals: P Korda (Cz) bt S Bruguera 4-6, 6-1, 6-4, B Becker (Ger) bt R Agenor (Haiti) 7-6, 6-1. Final: Becker bt Korda 6-2, 3-6, 6-3

MEMPHIS, Tennessee: Men's tournament (US unless stated): Quarter-finals: A O'Brien bt K Braasch (Ger) 6-3, 6-3; T Martin bt P Haarhuis (Hol) 6-1, 6-7, 7-6; P McEnroe bt T Enqvist (Swe) 6-3, 7-6; B Gilbert bt J Courier 6-4, 6-4. Semi-finals: Martin bt O'Brien 6-3, 4-6, 7-5; Gilbert bt McEnroe 7-6, 6-1.

AMAGASAKI, Japan: Women's tournament: Singles: Semi-finals: M Maleeva-Fragnière (Switz) bt M Endo (Japan) 6-0, 6-3; I Majoli (Cro) bt A Sugiyama (Japan) 7-5, 7-5. Final: Maleeva-Fragnière bt Majoli 6-1, 4-6, 7-5. Doubles: Semi-final: P Shriver (US) and E Smylie (Aus) bt K Guse (Aus) and V Lake (GB) 6-2, 6-4.

LINZ, Austria: Women's tournament: Semi-finals: S Appelmans (Bel) bt B Schett (Austria) 7-5, 6-4; M Babel (Ger) bt E Maniokova (Russ) 6-3, 6-4. Final: Appelmans bt Babel 6-1, 4-6, 7-6

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND KNOCKOUT CUP: Men: Semi-finals: Liverpool 0 Lewisham 3; Tooting 3 Ealing 1.

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND NATIONAL LEAGUE: Women: First division: Portsmouth 2 Leeds 3; London 0 Brixton 3; Guildford 3 Wessex 2.

TODAY

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership
Southampton v Liverpool (8.0)

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Stevenage v Wokingham.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chelmsford v Hastings.

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Ruislip Manor v Uxbridge.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: President's Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Guiseley v Ashton. League Cup: Third round: Hyde v Colwyn Bay.

CARLING NORTH-WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Clitheroe v Penrith.

FA YOUTH CUP: Brighton v Millwall

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa v Sunderland (7.0); Leicester v Bolton (7.0). Second division: Mansfield v Stoke (7.0); Preston v Port Vale; West Bromwich Albion v Scunthorpe (7.0).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Oxford Utd v Watford

OTHER SPORT

SNOOKER: International Open (Bournemouth)

THE TIMES

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

A J Gibbons & Son Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named company will be held at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, at 10.00 am on 1 March 1994 for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors' committees by or under the Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. Other creditors are entitled to vote if:-
They have delivered to us at 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, no later than 12.00 pm on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, and
There has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Dated 28 January 1994
D J Buchler
Joint Administrative Receiver

Gard Fusion Products Limited
Registered Number: 01545535. Trading Name: Gard Fusion Products Limited. Nature of Business: Manufacture Serv & Supp Elec Equip. Trade Classification: 07. Date of Appointment of Administrative Receivers: 4 February 1994. Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers: Barclays Bank Plc. Names of persons appointed: Philip Rodney Sykes and John Roger Hill both of Binder Hamlyn, Victoria Square, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts, AL1 5BB (Office Holder Nos: 6119 and 5737). Joint Administrative Receivers

Gard Instruments Limited
Registered Number: 01393388. Trading Name: Gard Instruments Limited. Nature of Business: Supp & Serv of Temperature Conts. Trade Classification: 07. Date of Appointment of Administrative Receivers: 4 February 1994. Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers: Barclays Bank Plc. Names of persons appointed: Philip Rodney Sykes and John Roger Hill both of Binder Hamlyn, Victoria Square, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts, AL1 5BB (Office Holder Nos: 6119 and 5737). Joint Administrative Receivers.

N G Services Limited
The Insolvency Act and Rules 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106, I, M P Riley of Clark Whitehill & Co, 25 New Street Square, London, EC4A 3LN, give notice that on 2 February 1994 I was appointed Liquidator by resolutions of members.
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 30 April 1994 to send in their full christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned M P Riley of 25 New Street Square London, EC4A 3LN, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.
Note: This notice is purely formal. All creditors have been or will be paid in full.
Dated: 9 February 1994.
M P Riley, Liquidator

No 0010946 of 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF FISH-FICHET LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 26th January 1994 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £1,000,000 to £150,000 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 29th January 1994.
Dated this 7th day of February 1994
Messrs. Kimbell and Company
352 Silbury Court, Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK9 2HJ.
Solicitors for the above-named Company

No 10602 of 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF WIDNEY PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 26th January, 1994 confirming the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named Company by £1,940,778 from £2,078,601 to £137,823 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 10th February, 1994.
DATED this 14th day of February 1994
MASONS
30 Aylesbury Street, London EC1R 0ER
Solicitors for the above-named Company.
Ref: RSB/AKR

RE: J R A SERVICES LIMITED AND THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ, on Tuesday the 1st March 1994, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of A Segal & Co, Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1JQ between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. as from Friday 25th February 1994
Dated this 9th day of February 1994
J B ALLRIDGE, Director

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 RULE 4.106(1)
CRAWLEY COMPUTERS PLC
In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation
Notice is hereby given that I, Dermot Brendan Coakley, Chartered Accountant, of Leach Bright & Partners, Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5HH, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 2 February 1994
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to me at the above address.
No further public notice or advertisement to prove debts will be given.
Date: 9 February 1994
D B Coakley, Liquidator.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
RADIO VISION SERVICES (BEDWORTH) LIMITED
T/A R V S (BEDWORTH)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above named company will be held at West Bromwich Moat House, Birmingham Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands on Thursday the 17th day of February 1994 at 10.00 am
NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN pursuant to Section 98(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at George House, 48 George Street, Manchester M1 4HF from the 15th day of February 1994
Dated this 3rd day of February 1994.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
M. Butler, Director

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
HARRIER EXPORT LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above named company will be held at 9 Victoria Road, Romford, Essex, RM1 2JT, on Monday 28th February 1994 at 11.30 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Notice is also given, pursuant to Section 98(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Messrs Shuttleworth & Company, 9 Victoria Road, Romford, Essex, RM1 2JT on the two business days falling next before the day of the Meeting.
Dated this 8th day of February 1994.
By Order of the Board
Mr J P Wood, DIRECTOR

The Insolvency Act 1986
Meadia Across The Line Plc
Across The Line Plc
Creative Across
The Line Limited
(ALL IN LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN and Brian Mills of Booth White, 6 Raleigh House, Admirals Way, Waterside, London E14 9SN were appointed Joint Liquidators of the said Companies by members and creditors on 2nd February 1994.
Dated this 10th day of February 1994
M R. Dorrington and B. Mills, Liquidators.

The Insolvency Act 1986
LIFETIME HOLIDAYS (UK) LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by members and creditors on 21st January 1994.
Dated this 10th day of February 1994
M R Dorrington, Liquidator

The Insolvency Act 1986
CLANPAK (UK) LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by members and creditors on 4th February 1994.
M R. Dorrington, Liquidator.

CONTRACTS & TENDERS

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Federal Ministry of Education and Youth Development
Federal Universities Development Sector
Adjustment Operation
Please note that the above mentioned notice which appeared in The Times dated 11th February 1994 should of read on the sixth line: Date: February, 1994.

Norway bares soul in Olympics' honour



David Miller sees an enchanting performance herald the launch of the Winter Games in Lillehammer

Beneath the earth in Norway there exists a secret, mystic people, the *vetter*. They are gentle, shy and peaceful, in harmony with nature. They live in the fantasy and poetry of the Norwegians, and offer in part an explanation of the humanity of the Norwegians themselves.

In the most enchanting Olympic opening ceremony I can recall, Norway shared its secret with the rest of the world. It was as though they were lying on the consultant psychiatrist's couch, and the television cameras had crept in the door. Norway bared its heart, and what we saw was not funny or embarrassing or silly, but one of the fundamental truths of mankind: that we share this earth with creatures and spirits of which we know not, of which Prospero spoke to us. They are there in the recesses of our imagination, which we discover in childhood and all too often dismiss as unrealistic.

The *vetter* are Norway's conscience as well as their secret culture, and to give their guests a glimpse of this was a brave step. As the rest of the globe tuned in on Saturday, Norway wished simply to say: "This is the way we are, we want you to see and share our sensibilities, to understand us and accept us."

Here was a masque, sat amid fading misty-mountain light and gently falling snow, that was itself a fairytale, its unblemished style devoid of pomp or brash presumption, and fashioned around two ideologies: the perfections of youthful sporting competition, and the fantasies of a peaceful mountain people. For such a day, both the Norwegian organisers and the much criticised International Olympic Committee (IOC) can take immense credit.

The afternoon began like some nineteenth century public holiday, with musicians arriving by pony and sled, wrapped in fur rugs. Dancers swept down the ski-jump slopes, the girls in ankle-length skirts to join the throng. It was all disarmingly unpretentious, including the arrival of the royal family, the king's presence being greeted like that of a benign uncle. As the curtain of darkness closed across the surrounding valley, the 66 teams strode into the stadium, the Bosnians with their symbolic white flag and simple emblem. The British were so formal in dark overcoats they looked as if they were on the way to the office.

There was heartfelt applause for Juan Antonio Samaranch, the IOC president, when he asked for a silent pause, among everybody watching worldwide, in sympathy for the dead and beleaguered of Sarajevo, a former Olympic city. And he pleaded: "Stop fighting, stop killing and drop your arms."

The Olympic flag was raised. Then Stein Gruben, astride the pinnacle of the towering slope above us, received the torch. Trembling, he launched himself down the jump, landed perfectly, and passed the flame to another. There was a huge cheer when Crown Prince Haakon, heir of two former Olympic competitors and himself an athlete, ignited the pedestal.

The floodlights dimmed. All was still. And slowly, from beneath the snow, there emerged, in ones and twos, the strange, crouching, tumbling, laughing figures: hesitant at first, in awe of the crowd surrounding them. By degrees, they grew in confidence. Then they were joined by more figures from the higher slopes, cascading joyously downwards, until a whole throng of hundreds was engaged in a shadowy, mystic ballet. The creation of the midnight sun: of new life and opportunities for our future, that must be in harmony with nature. It was simultaneously a hymn and a parable, and when it was over, we wound our way back down the hillside and into the little town twinkling among the snow-laden firs. Enchanted, and wiser.

RESULTS

Aamodt left to ponder a numbing defeat

FROM DAVID MILLER

FOR almost four minutes, Kjetil Andre Aamodt, the home boy, stood waiting in the starting gate, gazing down the Kvitfjell mountain and contemplating the 100-odd seconds that would perhaps fashion the rest of his life.

Had he become the first Scandinavian to win the classic men's downhill ski race, one of sport's fiercest tests of nerve, he could be a legend equivalent to Sonja Henie. But Cary Mullen, of Canada, sixth to start, immediately before Aamodt, had fallen, and officials had to check the course.

As the young Norwegian all-rounder waited, a protective coat thrown over his shoulders by a trainer while others vigorously massaged his legs in the vicious minus-20° temperature that was freezing photographers' fingers to their cameras, it is possible that his destiny was determined. A mere four-hundredths of a second. That was the margin by which he would be beaten into second place by Tommy Moe, from Alaska, grandson of a Moe from near Oslo. Maybe Aamodt lost those fractions in his head.

Marc Girardelli, first down the Russi-designed course that Stein Eriksen, the Norwegian winner of the 1952 Olympic giant-slalom, has called a racers' dream, had set a target time of 1min 45.75sec, as sharp as anything during the practice runs. Aamodt, 22, with the gold from the super-G and bronze from the giant slalom at Albertville, and his recent first downhill victory at Chamonix to spur him, knew what he had to beat. So far.

On the four ferocious left-right, left-right turns down a wall of ice that initially confronts the racer, Aamodt was exact, his time bettered by none of the top men over the first half-minute. But on the negative camber of the Elk Traverse, almost halfway down, he nearly lost the edge on his left ski. There, perhaps, glory evaporated.

The picture of his compact frame tucked behind his black helmet, hurtling downwards like a ball-bearing, brought a shiver to Norwegian spines. A 40,000-strong roar greeted his finish, 0.34sec ahead of Girardelli. Disillusionment, however, was instant.

Next down was Moe, a year older, the Montana-born former "golden child" of the junior circuit, who had become known as a knucklehead kid for his wild ways. It was not until his father took the teenaged Moe to Alaska to knock some sense into him that he straightened out.

He retains, however, that simple kind of American ambition: to become a legend. When he encountered the Kvitfjell course, he regarded it as ideal for his style. Privately, his attitude was "Who's going to come second?"

He had been fourth fastest on the final training run but now did not start that well. Into the first and second interval times, he was no better than sixth and fourth respectively. Yet with a minute gone, taking the perfect line, the least edge and gliding whenever possible, he had swept into the lead. His remaining interval and final times would survive all attack, by Podivinsky, of Canada, who took the bronze, and by Ortlieb of Austria, the champion beaten into fourth place.

The top five men were divided by a third of a second over the 1.6-mile run with a vertical drop of 2,600 feet.

Moe once said he would become cocky if he ever started "winning big". Yesterday he was restraining himself. "The secret was to stay relaxed," he said. "I did not have a perfect race, I made a few mistakes, but I kept pushing my skis. It's great to win my first downhill in the Olympics."

A reflective Aamodt said he would spend a lot of time looking at where he lost those fractions, even if it was his best time of the week. It could have been worse: he might have been Heinzer, of Switzerland. Thrusting through the gate, Heinzer found he had left one of his skis behind. A bit like a new form of dismissal in cricket: taking guard, hit wicket.

It had been a glorious first day for the quietly impassioned Norwegians, even if Aamodt had to be content with a silver medal. When it was over, a snake-like line of departing supporters wound its way across the frozen lake that divides the valley. The Norwegians still have much to look forward to.



Moe: relaxed



GERRY LAMPEN

Nancy Kerrigan, the American figure skater, in relaxed mood at a news conference in Lillehammer

Koss delights Norway with gold

BY MICHAEL COLEMAN AND CHRIS MOORE

JOHANN Olav Koss delighted a capacity crowd of 11,000 at the Viking Hall yesterday by winning Norway's first gold medal of the Games, capturing the 5,000 metres speed title in a world-record time of 6min 34.96sec.

This improved the record he set on the same Hamar ice in December by 0.57sec and bettered the Olympic record, set at Calgary in 1988 by Tomas Gustafson, of Sweden, by nearly 10 seconds. To add to Norway's delight, Kjell Storelid held off the Dutchman, Rintje Ritsma, who was favourite, for the silver medal.

As he skated before Koss, Storelid had the glory of being the Olympic record holder for about 20 minutes. Koss, however, went 7.72sec faster and in his final sprint nearly outpaced the automatic camera that glides on its own rails at beside the track.

Ritsma had come to Hamar full of expectation, having beaten Koss in the European championships here last month. In the process, he recorded a time of 6min 39.46sec for the 5,000 metres, the third fastest ever, and as this was followed by a world record for the 1,500 metres, he was installed as strong Olympic favourite.

The Norwegians, seeing his new aerodynamic skates, which have plastic moulding fitted to reduce air friction, for the first time, fell silent as Ritsma flashed through the first 1,000 metres in 1min 19.15sec, compared to Koss's 1min 21.06sec. He kept up that pace to 2,600 metres, but faded badly towards the finish. Koss, 25, also holds the 10,000 metres record, 13min 43.54sec, which he set in Holland three years ago, and will take on Ritsma again over that distance on Sunday.

Paul Hix, the only British luger in Lillehammer, starts the last two runs today 3.9sec behind the leader, Georg Hackl, of Germany, who will create Winter Games history if he successfully defends the men's singles title he won at Albertville two years ago.

In the only speed sport measured in thousandths of a second, Hix's deficit represents a distance of almost 100 metres. Hackl broke his own track record with a time of 50.296sec on the opening run of the competition. But Markus Prock, of Austria, the silver medal-winner two years ago, was only four thousandths of a second slower.

Hix, 19, who was born in the Isle of Wight but who has lived in Germany for the last 15 years, has been luging in Bavaria since he was 11. If he moves up three places today, he will achieve his aim of finishing in the top 25. He underlined his potential by finishing twelfth in the world junior championships last year.

Manuela Di Centa, of Italy, won the first gold medal of the Games with an outstanding performance in the women's 15km cross-country skiing. Di Centa, 31, led from the start and left Lyubov Egerova, of Russia, the defending champion, trailing in second place by more than a minute.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Bush's absence gives Hall final place

DARREN Hall had an unexpectedly helpful preparation to his attempt to extend his record of men's badminton singles titles to seven at the English national championships in Norwich yesterday (Richard Eaton writes). The curious departure of his semi-final opponent, Peter Bush, left the champion with a day's rest while his two nearest rivals fought out a hard battle in the other semi-final.

Anders Nielsen, the second-seeded 1992 champion, lost for the first time in his career to the third seed, Peter Knowles, whose 15-12, 15-8 victory earned him his first final. Hall was able to relax while tournament officials tried to discover the whereabouts of Bush. The fourth-seeded Wiltshire man reported that he had an ankle injury after beating fellow England international, Peter Smith, in the quarter-finals on Saturday, but apparently sought no treatment from the tournament physiotherapist and departed the event within two hours of his success.

Hounslow through

HOCKEY: Hounslow surived a penalty-stroke barrage against Southgate at Broomfield School yesterday to gain a semi-final place in the Hockey Association Cup after the scores were tied at 2-2 after extra time (Sydney Friskin writes). Hounslow took an early grip on the match with goals by Robert Thompson in the fourth minute and the second by Nick Gordon four minutes later.

Bill Waugh started Southgate's recovery by converting a short corner in the 42nd minute and Danny Kerry scored the equaliser from a difficult angle three minutes before the end of normal time, the ball being deflected into goal off a defender's stick. In the extra period it was anybody's game. At the end of the first round of penalty strokes, the scores were level at 4-4. In sudden death, Hounslow won 2-1.

Devils trounce Pirates

ICE HOCKEY: Cardiff Devils need only 11 points from their last ten premier division games to retain their title and their form is such that it would be foolhardy to bet against them (Norman de Mesquita writes). Their 17-6 win over Peterborough Pirates was their seventeenth in succession and they were last defeated nine weeks ago. As usual, their Welsh players contributed a great deal to the win with Nicky Chinn leading the way with two goals and four assists. Fife Flyers beat Sheffield Steelers and Murrayfield Racers beat Whitley Warriors.

Becker ends drought

TENNIS: Boris Becker ended a year-long title drought by retaining the Milan indoor championship yesterday. The three-times Wimbledon winner beat the Grand Slam Cup holder, Petr Korda, of the Czech Republic, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3. The result was a boost for the German, who returned to competition this month after a break of seven weeks, following the birth of his son. Becker, under his new coach, Nick Bollettieri, beat Ronald Agenor, of Haiti, the conqueror of Michael Stich, in straight sets to reach the final while Korda beat Sergi Bruguera, of Spain.

Simon qualifies again

EQUESTRIANISM: Hugo Simon, of Austria, the winner of the first Volvo World Cup Final in 1979, guaranteed himself a place in the final this year by winning the qualifier at the Brussels International Horse Show early yesterday. Michael Whitaker, of Britain, consolidated his own position just behind the series leader, Jos Lansink, of Holland, by taking fifth place with Everest Midnight Madness, who looked fresh in his first international competition of the season. Of the top-placed riders, Franke Sloothaak, of Germany, rode splendidly on San Patrignano Weihaiwej.

Smith survives scare

RACKETS: Neil Smith, the favourite, survived a spectacular comeback by his powerful young opponent, Rupert Owen-Browne, before winning the Lacoste British Open championship at Queen's Club yesterday. Smith, the world's leading professional, took the first three games easily against the sixth-seeded Tonbridgian, who had earlier put out two former world champions, John Prenn, in the quarter-finals, and Willie Boone, in the semi-finals. Owen-Browne fought back to level the score at 3-3 but could not maintain his momentum and Smith won the deciding game.

Bears make progress

BASKETBALL: Worthing Bears and Manchester Giants, the leading clubs in the Budweiser League, prevailed at the weekend, but the Bears made much the easier progress, beating London Towers 106-83 and subjecting the new visiting coach, Charlie Bannerman, to a torrid introduction. Irish led Worthing with 28 points and Bowers, of London, scored 34. Manchester, trailing 28-27 at half-time, scrambled a 68-65 win at Sunderland. With games in hand on the joint leaders, Thames Valley Tigers remain the title favourites. Tigers beat Derby Bucks 115-94.

Hightown surprise

HOCKEY: Hightown opened up the women's national league championship on Saturday by beating Leicester 1-0 to dislodge them from the top of the table. As the national league resumes after the Christmas break, the three leading clubs are within one point of one another. With two minutes left, Tina Cullen was given an opportunity and she latched on to a Nancy Stokes pass to score Hightown's winner. Ipswich reclaimed their position at the top with a 4-1 victory over Chelmsford. Slough, the new indoor champions, moved into second place by beating Clifton 4-0.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	60	170	good	powder	good	sun	-5	12/2
			(Excellent skiing)					
Mayrhofen	10	110	good	powder	closed	sun	-5	12/2
			(Superb skiing on and off piste)					
Schladming	45	150	good	good	fair	cloud	-3	12/2
			(Excellent skiing on fresh snow)					
FRANCE								
Alpe D'huez	130	220	good	varied	good	sun	-12	10/2
			(Snow excellent though some hard packed)					
Chamonix	40	345	good	good	fair	fine	2	10/2
			(Pistes well groomed and skiing well)					
Isola	180	280	good	good	good	fair	-3	8/2
			(All pistes open and in good condition)					
La Plagne	150	310	good	powder	good	sun	-12	10/2
			(Excellent snow)					
Hevaler 40	160	good	varied	good	fine	0		10/2
			(Excellent skiing on superb pistes)					
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	110	120	good	varied	good	fine	-6	11/2
			(Excellent skiing in brilliant sunshine)					
C Montana	40	170	good	varied	good	fine	-5	10/2
			(Very good skiing, upper slopes best)					
Gstaad	25	75	good	varied	good	sun	-3	10/2
			(Good skiing on most pistes)					
Villars	50	180	good	powder	good	sun	0	10/2
			(Piste conditions excellent)					
Wengen	35	100	good	powder	good	cloud	-5	13/2
			(Light snowfalls keeping crowds at bay)					
Zermatt	65	230	good	powder	good	fine	-4	10/2
			(Skiing at its best)					

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial

RESULTS FROM THE WINTER OLYMPICS

ICE HOCKEY

POOL A: Finland 3 Czech Republic 1; Russia 5 Norway 1; Germany 4 Austria 3.
POOL B: Sweden 4 Slovakia 4.

LUGE

MEN'S SINGLES (after two runs): 1, G Hackl (Ger) 1min 40.856sec (50.296sec, 50.560sec); 2, M Prock (Austria) 1:40.886 (50.300, 50.586); 3, A Zoeggeler (It) 1:41.042 (50.441, 50.601); 4, D Kennedy (US) 1:41.220 (50.597, 50.633); 5 A Huber (It) 1:41.321 (50.555, 50.766); 6, J Mueller (Ger) 1:41.421 (50.653, 50.858); 7, A Demchenko (Russ) 1;41.464 (50.601, 50.863); 8, N Huber (It) 1:41.495 (50.699, 50.836); 9, W Suckow (US) 1:41.517 (50.698, 50.819); 10, M Schmidt (Austria) 1:41.534 (50.684, 50.870); 28, P Hix (GB) 1:44.808 (52.410, 52.398).

NORDIC SKIING

WOMEN'S 15 KM FREESTYLE CROSS-COUNTRY: 1, M Di Centa (It) 39min 44.5sec, 2, L Egorova (Russ) 41:03 0 3, N Gavriluk (Russ) 41:10.4; 4, S Belmondo (It) 41:33.6; 5, L Lazutina (Russ) 41:57.6; 6, Y Vialbe (Russ) 42:26.6; 7, A Ordina (Swe) 42:29.1; 8, A Havrancikova (Slovakia) 42:34.4; 9, S Villeneuve (Fr) 42:41.3 10; A Moen (Nor) 42:42.9.

SKIING

MEN'S DOWNHILL: 1, T Moe (US) 1min 45.75sec; 2, K Aamodt (Nor) 1:45.79; 3, E Podivinsky (Can) 1:45.87, 4, P Ortlieb (Austria) 1:46.01; 5, M Girardelli (Lux) 1:46.09; equal 6, N Burtin (Fr) and H Trinkl (Austria) 1:46.22, 8, L Alphand (Fr) 1.46.25; 9, A Skaardal (Nor) 1:46.29; 10, J Thorsen (Nor) 1:46.34; 26, G Bell (GB) 1:47.39, 28, M Bell (GB) 1:47.49.

SPEED SKATING

MEN'S 5,000: 1, J Koss (Nor) 6min 34.96sec (world record); 2, K Storelid (Nor) 6:42.68; 3, R Ritsma (Neth) 6:43.94; 4, F Zandstra (Neth) 6:44.58; 5, B Veldkamp (Neth) 6:49.00; 6, T Itokawa (Japan) 6:49.36, 7, J Radke (Pol) 6.50.40, 8, F Dittrich (Ger) 6:52.27, 9, M Hedeschieff (Austria) 6:53.02; 10, C Eminger (Austria).

MEDAL TABLE

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Norway	1	2	0	3
Italy	1	0	0	1
United States	1	0	0	1
Russia	0	1	1	2
Canada	0	0	1	1
Holland	0	0	1	1

TODAY

All times GMT

09.00: Luge, men's singles, third and fourth runs.
09.30: Cross-country skiing, men's 30km freestyle.
10.00: Skiing, men's combined downhill.
14.00: Speed skating, men's 500m; Ice hockey, Germany v Norway.
16.30: Ice hockey, Czech Republic v Austria.
19.00: Ice hockey, Russia v Finland.

TELEVISION: BBC2: 14.15-15.50; 20.00-21.00; 23.15-23.55.

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Hurdler has to share record after false start from photo-judge

Jackson world record overturned



Colin Jackson in record-breaking form in Saturday's international against the US in Glasgow. Photograph: Michael Cooper/Allsport

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

COLIN Jackson went to bed on Saturday night thinking he had set seven records in as many seconds during a 60 metres hurdles race at the Kelvin Hall in Glasgow. By lunchtime yesterday, however, news reached him at home in Wales that he was down to six-and-a-half records, having lost 50 per cent of the most important one — the world mark.

Jackson was announced as having beaten Greg Foster's indoor world mark with 7.35sec in the McDonald's international between Britain and the United States. The photographic evidence, however, shows that he ran 7.36sec, equalling Foster's time from 1987.

A year ago Jackson lost the indoor world title to a false start by the Canadian, Mark McKoy. This time the false start came from the photo-finish judges who rushed out a time before a thorough check had been made. "The pressure is on to give a quick result," Raymond Hutchison, the photo-finish judge who noticed the difference, said. "On first reading it looked like he had broken the world record but, when I got the film home, I took a dry print."

The enlarged print showed a slower time of between one and three thousands of a second, enough to necessitate Jackson's time being rounded up to the nearest hundredth. To meet the urgent needs of the stadium announcer and media, a wet negative had been read. "The moisture tends to fuzz the precise line of the torso," Hutchison said.

"When the cursor was on the graduation mark representing the world record there was a definite gap of a thousandth of a second." Two prints, one with a cursor line and one without, will be sent to the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF). "The IAAF is the final arbiter but I do not see they could come to any other conclusion," Hutchison said.

But 7.36sec broke six records: European, Commonwealth, British, Welsh, Scottish all-comers, United Kingdom all-comers. Jackson said: "I am not upset at all. I do not think the record will be 7.36sec come the end of the season." Sally Gunnell, Jackson's fellow British world outdoor champion hurdler, will try to improve her British indoor 400 metres record in Germany next month. It stands at 51.77sec and on Saturday, in her first race of the year, she recorded 52.34sec, three seconds clear of the field.

"With that time today, out there on my own, I am sure I can run faster," Gunnell said, suggesting inside 51sec.

☐ Steve Smith, of Britain, won the high jump, with Steve Smith, of the United States, second. At 2.20 metres there was almost a collision of Steve Smiths as both went to jump at the same time. The British Smith was putting in a practice run, not realising the American Smith was approaching with his second attempt. Their Smith did as well to get over as ours did to get out of his way.

Tirley Missile to deny Greenall's challenge

BY BRIAN BEEL

JOHNNY Greenall has won on each of the three occasions he has contested a *Times* Rising Stars qualifier on one of his Caroline Saunders-trained runners. However, his attempt at enhancing that record on Kilfinny Cross at Hereford today must overcome stiff opposition, headed by Tirley Missile and Cool Relation.

Kilfinny Cross, who countered stamina doubts with an unchallenged victory at Barbury Castle, will be not easy to beat, but his time was four seconds slower than that recorded by Tirley Missile when winning over the same course and distance.

The experience gained by Tirley Missile in two hunter chases last season will stand him in good stead and, although he subsequently seemed to find three miles too far, his stamina could not be questioned on his latest outing.

Cool Relation was still in front of Wild Illusion and going well when he fell half a mile from home in a Land Rover open at Barbury Castle three weeks ago. He also came to grief on his initial outing last season before going on to be unbeaten in four races. Alan Phillips, who shared the novice riders' title last year, rode him in three of them and is on board again today.

Cool Relation, now trained by his owner, Denis Caro, was formerly with Penny Grainger, who thought him "a super horse" but one prone to jumping mistakes under pressure.

Parkbhride, trained by Peter Bowen, who produced last year's final winner, Gold Shot, was behind in Double Silk's Chepstow hunter chase when hampered by the fall of Doubting Donna. He improved with each race last year when he won four times.

Pont De Paix, owned and trained by Pam Sykes, has not been out this year but last season was unbeaten in his last three races. He is likely to be fit for his sternest test so far and the competent Charlie Barlow is aboard.

The race looks to be between these five but they are so closely matched that predicting the outcome is particularly tricky. I would not deter anyone who believes in the invincibility of the Saunders-Greenall partnership, but suggest that Tirley Missile may provide better value.

HEREFORD LINE-UP

2.00 TIMES RISING STARS HUNTERS CHASE
(Qualifier: amateurs: £1,953: 3m 1f 110yd) (9 runners)

201	/14-0FU	DOUBTING DONNA 9 (G,S) (Mrs D Hughes) Mrs D Hughes 8-12-0	V Hughes (7)	89
202	/P2I3-	BIRDSEND BOY 287P (Mrs A Price) Mrs A Price 9-11-12	M Jackson (7)	–
203	1111-F	COOL RELATION 23P (F,6,S) (D Caro) D Caro 8-11-12	A Phillips (7)	–
204	1222-1	KILFINNY CROSS 23P (S) (J Greenall) Miss C Saunders 8-11-12	J Greenall	–
205	0/1F1-U	PARKBHRIDE 20 (F,6,S) (P Bowen) P Bowen 8-11-12	J A Llewellyn (7)	–
206	FB111-	PONT DE PAIX 30BP (F,G) (Mrs W Sykes) Mrs W Sykes 8-11-12	C J B Barlow (7)	99
207	4252-S3	RUSTY BRIDGE 20 (F,G) (J Johnson) J Johnson 7-11-12	R Johnson (7)	89
208	F1P13-1	SOME-TOY 9P (G,S) (J Squire) J Squire 8-11-12	Richard White (7)	–
209	8214-1	TIRLEY MISSILE 23P (F,S) (D Smith) D Smith 8-11-12	J M Pritchard (7)	96

☐ Form figures include point-to-points

BETTING: 11-4 Kilfinny Cross, 7-2 Cool Relation, 4-1 Tirley Missile, 6-1 Parkbridle, 7-1 Pont De Paix, 16-1 Some-Toy, Rusty Bridge, 25-1 Doubting Donna, 66-1 Birdsend Boy.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

COOL RELATION in lead when fell in point won by Wild Illusion at Barbury Castle (good to soft) latest. Previously beat Blaix Cheek 10l in a 13-runner point at Ashorne (good to soft). KILFINNY CROSS beat Baron's Heir 15l in a 17-runner point at Barbury Castle (good to soft). PARKBHRIDE beat Chief Ironside 2l in a 4-runner Open at Llanwenno (good to soft) on penultimate start. PONT DE PAIX beat Ab-Rule neck in a 14-runner point at Eyton-On-Severn (good). RUSTY BRIDGE 35l 3rd of 9 to Double Silk in a hunter chase at Cheqsiow (3m, soft) with PARKBHRIDE unseated rider and DOUBTING DONNA fell. SOME TOY beat Another Miracle 1l in a 7-runner point at Wadebridge (soft). TIRLEY MISSILE beat Music In The Night 15l in a point at Barbury Castle (good to soft).

Bedford in insurance puzzle

NICE runner, but not covered by insurance. If Wang Junxia sets a world best for the women's marathon in London on April 17 there may be an expensive price to pay for those who put China's prodigious running machine on the capital's roads (David Powell writes). Organisers of the NutraSweet London Marathon announced on Saturday that Wang and three other members of Ma Junren's Chinese women's distance squad have committed to their event and speculation began that Ingrid Kristiansen's world best of 2hr 21min 06sec, set in London in 1985, might fall. The insurance companies see Wang as a high risk.

David Bedford, the elite field director, has been quoted $65,000 (about £43,300) to insure against Wang breaking 2hr 20min, of which $25,000 (about £16,700) is against her beating Kristiansen's mark. London's bonus structure offers $50,000 (about £33,300) for a world best and a further $100,000 for a woman breaking 2:20.

But Bedford does not want the insurance unless a markedly cheaper quote can be found. "I would not want to lose $65,000 for it not happening," Bedford said. "We would expect the record to be broken, in which case we would face up to the financial consequences." With other cumulative bonuses on offer, beginning with $1,000 for breaking 2hr 35min, Wang, or a team-mate, could pick up $175,500 for sub 2:20. Bedford's reasoning is that the publicity such a run would bring would be money well spent.

Barber has six winners

POINT-TO-POINT BY BRIAN BEEL

THE Seaborough stable of Richard Barber reached new heights at the **South Dorset** point-to-point on Saturday, and in so doing put Polly Curling in the record books as the first woman to ride four winners at a meeting.

Barber saddled six of the eight winners, which also provided a first success for Dominic Alers-Hankey on Quick Rapor and a win for Martin Pipe — in the role of owner — with Kings Rank, ridden by his son, David.

Curling's first two successes, Lewesden Hill in division one of the restricted and Rural Outfit in the ladies, were comparatively easy as was that of Cornish Cossack in the maiden after the only danger, Celtic Spark, had unseated Richard Miller five out.

However, she needed to be at her best on Connate to beat the Teresa Dare-ridden Strobe Light, who lost a winning chance when running wide at the final turn.

Curling was too distraught to comment on her achievement as, in Connate's race, an old favourite of hers, Thrales, who she usually rode for Mike Trickey, collapsed and died after jumping the final fence. Unfortunately this was not the only tragedy at Milborne St Andrew as Brown Rifle was fatally injured in the ladies.

A treble looked to be on the cards for Tim McCarthy at the **South East Hunts Club** after he had won the restricted on Green's Thorburn and the Club race on Roussillon To Be but it was not to be. His Strong Bond, favourite for the open, was beaten on merit by Mighty Frolic (Trevor Hills).

Robusti, who had run second to Wild Illusion at Barbury Castle, won the open at the **Vale of Clettwr** but only by a short head. He was ridden by Tim Jones, whose sister, Pip, had a double with Henryk in the members and Handsome Harvey who won the ladies.

Melton Park regained winning form when landing odds of 3-1 on in the **Waveney** open, but he had to be ridden out by Michael Bloom to beat supposedly inferior rivals.

Bloom later increased his tally this term to five on Milbay in the intermediate. There was a shock at the **East Cornwall** when the 50-1 chance Alpine Song beat For A Lark.

Barnes's gallant failure lets in Gilford



Barnes: grisly end

FROM MEL WEBB
IN TENERIFE

BRIAN Barnes's valiant efforts on behalf of forty-somethings everywhere ended in gallant failure when he was undone by his fragile putting to concede victory to David Gilford in the Tenerife Open at Golf del Sur yesterday.

Gilford, not only the quiet man of the PGA European Tour but in all probability one of the quietest men in the entire continent of Europe, let his clubs do the talking for him as he collected the £41,660 first prize after a final round of 70 and a total of 278, ten under par, two strokes ahead of Andrew Murray, Juan Quiros, of Spain, and Wayne Riley, of Australia.

Barnes, 48, was a surprise leader on Saturday night after a marvellous 64. He still led Gilford by a stroke with six holes to play, but then Barnes three-putted four of the last five greens to finish with a 77.

Sadly for him and anybody else who enjoys good, old-fashioned nostalgia, 12 years out of the winner's enclosure had finally taken its toll, and in the end he was relegated to a share of fifth place. "I'm not making excuses when I say that I just couldn't read the greens today," Barnes said.

Gilford played exactly the right game here. Armed with a new metal driver, he kept the ball in play off the tee, hit it consistently close to the hole off the fairway and never gave himself too much to do on the difficult greens.

The turning points came on the 13th, where Barnes three-putted to bring him back level with Gilford, and the par-five 14th, where Gilford hit a superb seven-iron second shot from 173 yards to ten feet, from where he holed his putt for an eagle three.

It signalled the end of Barnes's resistance, and a grisly end in which he went bogey, double-bogey, bogey, meant that Gilford had no pressure on him as he completed his fifth Tour win to take him through the £1 million mark in European earnings. To Barnes it was torture — to Gilford, little more than a gentle stroll on a warm and windy day.

LEADING FINAL-ROUND SCORES (GB and Ireland unless stated): 278: D Gilford 72, 70, 66, 70. 280: W Riley (Aus) 68, 71, 70, 71; A Murray 73, 67, 68, 72; J Quiros (Sp) 70, 68, 67, 75. 281: B Hughes (US) 69, 76, 69, 67; J M Canizares (Sp) 67, 70, 73, 71; D Ray 70, 70, 69, 72; B Barnes 73, 67, 64, 77. 283: J Sewell 74, 67, 73, 69; P Curry 69, 71, 73, 71; D Smyth 70, 71, 70, 72; J Davies (Sp) 74, 69, 70, 71; JM Olazabal (Sp) 73, 69, 70, 71; R Alvarez (Arg) 72, 65, 73, 73. 284: J Rivero (Sp) 73, 68, 73, 70; J Metcalfe 71, 66, 76, 69; D Borrego (Sp) 68, 70, 72, 74. 285: J Robson 71, 72, 72, 70; H Selby-Green 72, 73, 69, 71; G Turner (NZ) 73, 70, 71, 71; S Luna (Sp) 74, 69, 70, 72; R Bernardi (Ger) 72, 71, 70, 72; R Claydon 71, 71, 70, 73; J Gamiz (Sp) 71, 71, 69, 74; M Jimenez (Sp) 74, 70, 67, 74; I Garrido (Sp) 75, 67, 68, 77.

RESULTS FROM SEVEN POINT-TO-POINT MEETINGS

BADSWORTH (Wetherby) Hunt: 1, Chat-A-Long (A Rabon, 1-2 fav); 2, Acersainht; 3, Brustin Brae. 5 ran. Confined I: 1, General Harmony (S Brisby, 10-1); 2, Seek The Sun, 3, Fenwick, 14 ran. Confined (Div II): 1, Man's Best Friend (R Ford, 4-6 fav); 2, Farnsworth, 3, Final Hope. 16 ran. Ladies: 1, Air Mark (Miss R Clark, 2-1); 2, Across The Lake, 3, Dalmore. 14 ran. PPOA (Div I): 1, Killeanmore (S Whitaker, 33-1); 2, Sir George Chutty; 3, The Right Guy. 14 ran. PPOA II: 1, Magic Whip (Mrs J Brown, 4-5 fav); 2, Rhythmical Beat, 3, Solstitial Song. 16 ran. Open I: 1, Timurs Luck (O Warberton, 33-1); 2, Isobar; 3, Sheriff's Band. 11 ran. Open II: 1, Mick's Tycoon (S Swiers, 10-1); 2, Stalzer, 3, Adamare. 11 ran. Mdn I, Extra Beat (A Ogden, 4-1); 2, Prior Conviction, 3, Canny's Character. 14 ran

EAST CORNWALL (Great Trethew): Hunt: 1, Bowcap (Miss S Young, 13-2); 2, Stoke Hand, 3, Kingsmill Imp. 4 ran. Confined. 1, Tragan (Mrs C Wonnacott, 4-5 fav); 2, Chinalogan, 3, Suez. 12 ran. Inter. 1, Searcher (Miss L Blackford, 4-1); 2, Columborgue, 3, Rathmichael. 10 ran. Open 1, Celtic Sport (R White, Evens fav), 2, Mylege, 3, Happy News. 5 ran. Ladies. 1, Alpine Song (Miss V Stephens, 50-1); 2, For A Lark; 3, Jimmy Cone. 9 ran. Rest: 1, The General's Drum (N Heard, 5-1); 2, Cregg Boreen, 3, Rolane. 16 ran. Open Mdn I: 1, The Hollery Madam (I Dowrick, 12-1); 2, Tragale, 3, Springcombe. 12 ran. Open Mdn II: 1, Strong Breeze (Mrs R Pocock, 6-1); 2, Betty Lad, 3, General Moss. 9 ran. Open Mdn III: 1, Afterlelly (R White, 4-1); 2, Derrywood, 3, Aristocratic Gold. 10 ran.

HAYDON (Corbridge): Hunt: 1, Kings Law (D Scott, 4-5 fav); 2, Killula Lass; 3, Mikhail. 4 ran. Confined: 1, Royalist (C Storey, 1-4 fav); 2, Press For Action; 3, Notarius. 11 ran. Rest: 1, Hurry Glen (Miss S Hunter, 3-1); 2, Miss Eros, 3, Minbrig. 17 ran. Open. 1, Jimmy River (K Anderson, 5-4 fav), 2, Royal Jester; 3, Run Leah Run. 10 ran. Ladies. 1, Tancred Way (Miss C Dennis, 14-1); 2, Bow Handy Man; 3, Alstonnor. 11 ran. Mdn I: 1, Cougar (Miss S Nichol, 8-1); 2, Hawk Hill Ryde, 3, Thief's Road. 16 ran. Mdn II: 1, Oakley (R Shiels, 6-1); 2, Hallo Sensation, 3, Highland Chart. 17 ran. Mdn III. 1, Anzama (M Dun, 20-1); 2, Winter Ramble, 3, Wranstone Mill. 17 ran

SOUTH DORSET (Milborne St Andrew): Rest 1, Fellow Countryman (A Wardall, 6-1); 2, Cool Dawn; 3, Earl Boon. 10 ran. Rest (Div II): 1, Lewesdon Hill (Miss P Curling, 4-9); 2, Bickfield Approach; 3, Buzz O'The Crowd. 16 ran. Rest III: 1, Quick Rapor (D Alers-Hankey, 5-2); 2, Kilmacthomas; 3, Copper Rose Hill. 14 ran. Hunt: 1, Chocolat Blanc (T Mitchell, 3-1); 2, Rachels Rocket; 3, Golden Czar. 7 ran. Open. 1, Kings Rank (D Pipe, 6-1); 2, Blue Dart; 3, Impy Condor. 9 ran. Ladies: 1, Rural Outfit (Miss P Curling, 2-7 fav); 2, Basilee; 3, Eagle Trace. 10 ran. Mdn. 1, Cornish Cossack (Miss P Curling, 5-4); 2, Simply Joylut; 3, Great Uncle. 13 ran. Con: 1, Connate (Miss P Curling, 7-4 fav); 2, Strobe Light; 3, Woodbury Fair. 15 ran.

SOUTH EAST HUNTS CLUB (Charing): Rest: 1, Green's Thorburn (T McCarthy, 10-11 fav); 2, Aladan; 3, Three Seasons. 12 ran. Club: 1, Roussillon To Be (T McCarthy, 1-4 fav); 2, What A Gig; 3, Alleged Savage. 9 ran. Open. 1, Mighty Frolic (T Hills, 8-1), 2, Strong Gold; 3, Magical Moms. 8 ran. Ladies: 1, Green Tops (Miss C Holliday, Evens fav); 2, No Say; 3, Mount Patrick. 5 ran. Moderate: 1, Another Troup (P Bull, 2-1 fav); 2, Sky Venture; 3, Pirewater Station. 11 ran. Mdn I: 1, Ollie's Lady (C Gordon, 3-1); 2, Greenhill Fly Away; 3, Nun So Game. 11 ran. Mdn II: 1, Barn Elms (P Hacking, 7-2); 2, Wellington Bay; 3, Netherlara. 12 ran.

VALE OF CLETTWR (Erw Lon): Hunt: 1, Henryk (Miss P Jones, 3-1); 2, Andartis; 3, Deal Me One. 6 ran. Mdn I: 1, Red Russe (J Price, 5-2 jt fav), 2, Humisham Castle; 3, Pits Delight. 15 ran. Mdn II: 1, Mr Mad (P Harner, 6-1); 2, My Pilor; 3, Normsla. 12 ran. Mdn III: 1, Who-Have-I (R Rowsell, 4-1); 2, Mallymac Girl; 3, Celtic Bizarre. 9 ran. Mdn (Div IV): 1, La Mozarey (P Harner, Evens), 2, Madyan, 3, Phar Too Touchy. 12 ran. Open. 1, Robusti (T Jones, 4-5); 2, Andriolc; 3, Sandbrook. 13 ran. Ladies: 1, Handsome Harvey (Miss P Jones, Evens); 2, Welsh Legion, 3, Garden Centre Boy. 8 ran. Rest I: 1, Bradford Beau (A Phillips, 4-6), 2, General Troy; 3 ran. 15 ran. Rest II: 1, Stamford Boy (D Duggan, 6-1); 2, Lord Crosby, 3, Fox Pointer. 15 ran. Confined: 1, Bell Glass (J Jukes, 12-1), 2, Butt And Bend; 3, The Blue Boy. 16 ran.

WAVENEY HARRIERS (Higham): Hunt: 1, Cricklewood Chris (Mrs C Soames, 4-6 fav), 2, Bal-De-Joie, 3, Cass. 6 ran. Confined: 1, Walkers Hill (E Nicolson, 2-1 fav); 2, John O'Dee; 3, Azusa. 17 ran. Open: 1, Melton Park (N Bloom, 1-3), 2, Saint Bene't, 3, Owd Henry. 10 ran. Ladies: 1, Richard Hunt (Miss L Rowe, 1-2); 2, Quick Reaction; 3, Fort Hall. 8 ran. Mdn I. 1, Corn Kingdom (A Coe, 11-4); 2, Half A Sov; 3, Montmezzo. 16 ran. Mdn (Div II part I): 1, Salmon Mead (W Sporborg, 5-1), 2, Just Maisy; 3, Gems Lad. 9 ran. Mdn (Div II part II): 1, Express Fred (S R Andrews, 4-6), 2, Romanchor; 3, Sunset Run. 9 ran. Inter: 1, Millbay (N Bloom, 11-2), 2, Couture Quality; 3, Unique Tribute. 18 ran.

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S FIVE MEETINGS

Newbury
Going: soft (heavy in places)

1.10 (3m 2f 110yd hdle) 1, Bishops Island; 2, Magpie; 3 ran. 2, Farmhouse House (2nd fav); 3, Grange Stars (4th). Tote: £4.20; £1.40, £1.40, £1.40. DF £4.30. CSF £11.10. Trio: £17.10. Trifecta: £31.33.

1.40 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Viking Flagship (4-6 fav); 2, Whitaker Man (5-1); 3, Eighter (2-1 fav); 5 ran. 2, Bishop Joan Tate; 3, Nomore Mr. Tote: £1.50; £1.60, £4.30. DF: £6.40. CSF: £13.23.

2.15 (3m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Viking Action (Mr Osborne, 9-2); 2, Dr Be Flying (14-1); 3, Flakey Dove (5-2 fav). 11 ran. Grand Sancy 2, Sherwood Tote: £4.80; £2.00; £3.60; £1.70. DF: £9.20. Trio: £54.20. CSF: £59.24. Trifecta: £175.40.

2.45 (3m 4f hdle) 1, The Glow (9-2 fav); 2, Jumbeau (100-30); 3, Fenwick Lass (14-1). 5 ran. Shes Grandaughter (2nd fav). 6 ran. 3 11 15 D Elsworth. Tote: £6.10; £1.70; £1.60. DF: £2.50. CSF: £11.27.

3.15 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Brave Buccaneer (R Rowe, 5-4 fav); Thunderer's and Richard Evans's nap; 2, Fenwick (33-1); 3, Carncastle (10-1). 3 ran. DF: Emerald Sunset. 3rd. Tote: Mrs M Revelen. Tote: £2.20; £1.40; £10.30; £3.10. DF: £9.50. Trio: £368.70. CSF: £40.77. Trifecta: £368.75.

3.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Kemash Piper (C Llewellyn, 5-2); 2, Eliast (2-1); 3, Uncle Eli (7-2 fav). 4 ran. 2½l, sh hd. N Gasson. Tote: £3.60. DF: £5.60. CSF: £7.42.

4.15 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Callandak (S McGourt, 5-1); 2, Knockaverry (100-1); 3, Avril Imperial (12-2). Keep Me In Mind 2-1 fav. 15 ran. 7l, 1½l. N Tinkler. Tote: £4.50; £2.10; £2.40; £2.50. DF: £21.80. Trio: £56.50. CSF: £56.12.

Jackpot: £3,877.00 Placepot: £98.90.

Uttoxeter

1.30 1, Bickerman (11-2); 2, High Grade (7-1); 3, Rochestown Lass (14-1). Anderman (7-4 fav). 8 ran.

2.00 1, Honest Word (4-5 fav); 2, Rouyan (13-8); 3, Taramoss (7-1). 3 ran.

2.30 1, Sheer Ability (6-4 fav); 2, Italarex (12-1); 3, Wilsford (14-1). 5 ran.

3.00 1, Nakir (6-4 fav); 2, Mister Cody (6-1); 3, Local Manor (5-2). 6 ran.

3.30 1, Corner Boy (5-4 fav); 2, Grey's Elergy (6-4); 3, Do Be Have (4-1). 4 ran.

4.00 1, Fifth Amendment (5-2 fav); 2, Mount Argus (25-1); 3, Centre Attraction (25-1). 13 ran. NR: Celtic Fleet.

4.30 1, Saint Clel (4-1); 2, Sharpside (6-1); 3, Mahong (25-1). Rafters 5-4 fav. 6 ran.

Catterick Bridge

2.20 1, Bend Sable (9-2 jt-fav); 2, Cromarty (9-2 jt-fav); 3, Dayadan (10-1). Talos 9-2 jt-fav. 17 ran. NR: Handsome Gent.

2.50 1, River Pearl (9-2); 2, Centenary Star (3-1 fav); 3, Deep Decision (9-2). 7 ran.

3.20 1, Very Evident (11-2); 2, Busman (5-2 fav); 3, Ali Greek To Me (5-1). 12 ran.

3.50 1, Killula Chief (3-1); 2, General Pershing (4-9 fav); 3, He Who Dares Wins (10-1). 6 ran.

4.20 1, Gallaraan (4-11 fav); 2, Jupiter Moon (11-2); 3, Pit Pony (66-1). 5 ran.

4.50 1, Scarf (7-2 jt-fav); 2, Carson City (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Russian Castle (7-2 jt-fav). 8 ran.

Lingfield Park

2.05 1, Plinth (11-4); 2, Rockstone (6-1); 3, Harlequin Walk (11-4). Sir Danny 5-2 fav. 5 ran.

2.35 1, Lyph (13-2); 2, Kenyatta (3-1 fav); 3, Spanish Whisper (8-1). 14 ran

3.05 1, Dune River (Evens fav); 2, Piquant (7-1); 3, Sarum (6-1). 9 ran

3.35 1, Pytchley Night (6-4 fav); 2, Silky Siren (4-1); 3, Letsbeonestabout (11-2). 12 ran.

4.05 1, Success Story (4-5 fav); 2, Komptachy (9-4); 3, Dont Con Th'bootse (7-1). 5 ran.

4.35 1, Rockstear (9-4 jt-fav); 2, Monsieur Petong (11-4); 3, Thorny Bishop (5-2). Napoleon Star 9-4 jt-fav. 4 ran

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Wolverhampton: 3.10 Angelic Dancer. The Farnhill Flyer. 3.40 Arrasas Lady. 4.10 Swordking

THE TIMES RISING STARS

Create a name for a hunter chaser to win gift vouchers from Aquascutum OF LONDON

FIRST PRIZE: £150 GIFT VOUCHERS
SECOND PRIZE: £100 GIFT VOUCHERS
THIRD PRIZE: £50 GIFT VOUCHERS

Pick any horse from the list of runners in The Times Rising Stars Series at Hereford (2.00) and, using every letter of that name once only, create what you think would be a more apt and original name for a runner in that race. Complete the entry form below and post it no later than tomorrow to: The Times Rising Stars Competition, 118 - 120 Gt. Titchfield Street, London W1P 7AJ.

The judges, who will include the Sports Editor, will award the three prizes in what they deem to be the order of merit. Their decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Winners and the winning names will be announced in the sports pages of The Times within seven days and the gift vouchers will be despatched the same day.

There's £300 of gift vouchers from Aquascutum to be won on all eight qualifier races in The Times Rising Stars Series and at the final at Newbury on 25th March, not only can you win the £300 of vouchers, but also a star prize of

A £5000 WARDROBE OF COATS AND FINE CLOTHING FROM AQUASCUTUM

Details will be published in that day's issue of The Times and in the racecard at Newbury.

The Times Rising Star Series: Wincanton 10th February · Hereford 14th February · Huntingdon 22nd February · Nottingham 1st March · Kelso 4th March · Bangor-On-Dee 9th March · Sedgefield 15th March · Lingfield 19th March · Newbury 25th March.

ENTRY FORM

Post this completed entry no later than tomorrow to: The Times Rising Stars Competition, 118-120 Gt. Titchfield Street, London W1P 7AJ.

RACE MEETING _____ DATE _____
NAME OF ACTUAL RUNNER SELECTED _____
NAME CREATED _____
ENTRANTS NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

THE TIMES RISING STARS

Aquascutum, out of Best Material by Classic Design.

The series, in association with Aquascutum, continues today at Hereford.
Nearest Aquascutum outlets are Beatties of Wolverhampton and Ross Label of Ross-on-Wye.

Aquascutum OF LONDON

Champion chaser's Gold Cup odds cut to 6-4 after fine Irish trial

Jodami gives masterly display

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT AT LEOPARDSTOWN

ON A day littered with Cheltenham clues, Jodami, the Gold Cup winner, returned to his brilliant best with a crushing dismissal of his five rivals in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown yesterday. Racing with a zest lacking in his four previous starts this season, the nine-year-old ultimately extracted a heavy price from Flashing Steel and Chatam, the two horses to challenge his authority.

Flashing Steel, to his credit, was upsides Peter Beaumont's bay when he crashed out of the race two fences from home. However, Mark Dwyer had little doubt the home-trained horse posed no significant threat at the time. It was more a case of Jodami precipitating Flashing Steel's departure by his remorseless gallop, which had long since seen off the challenge of Chatam.

It was Chatam who increased the tempo over a mile from home, only for Jodami to respond with a series of spectacular leaps down the far side. It came in marked difference to the first half of the race, when the horse repeatedly failed to pick up off a long stride. "He felt better in the second half of the race and was loving the company," Dwyer reported.

With Chatam's jumping again failing him, Kevin O'Brien elected to send Flashing Steel upsides Jodami, whose fluent fencing had carried him to the front at the third from home. But as O'Brien went to work, Dwyer felt his mount gaining in both strength and confidence.

Flashing Steel, however, is prone to the odd blunder, and it came now as he duelled with Jodami. The pair drew well away from Deep Bramble, so that Jodami was not hard pressed to coast home by seven lengths after Flashing Steel's tumble. Chatam laboured home a weary fourth.

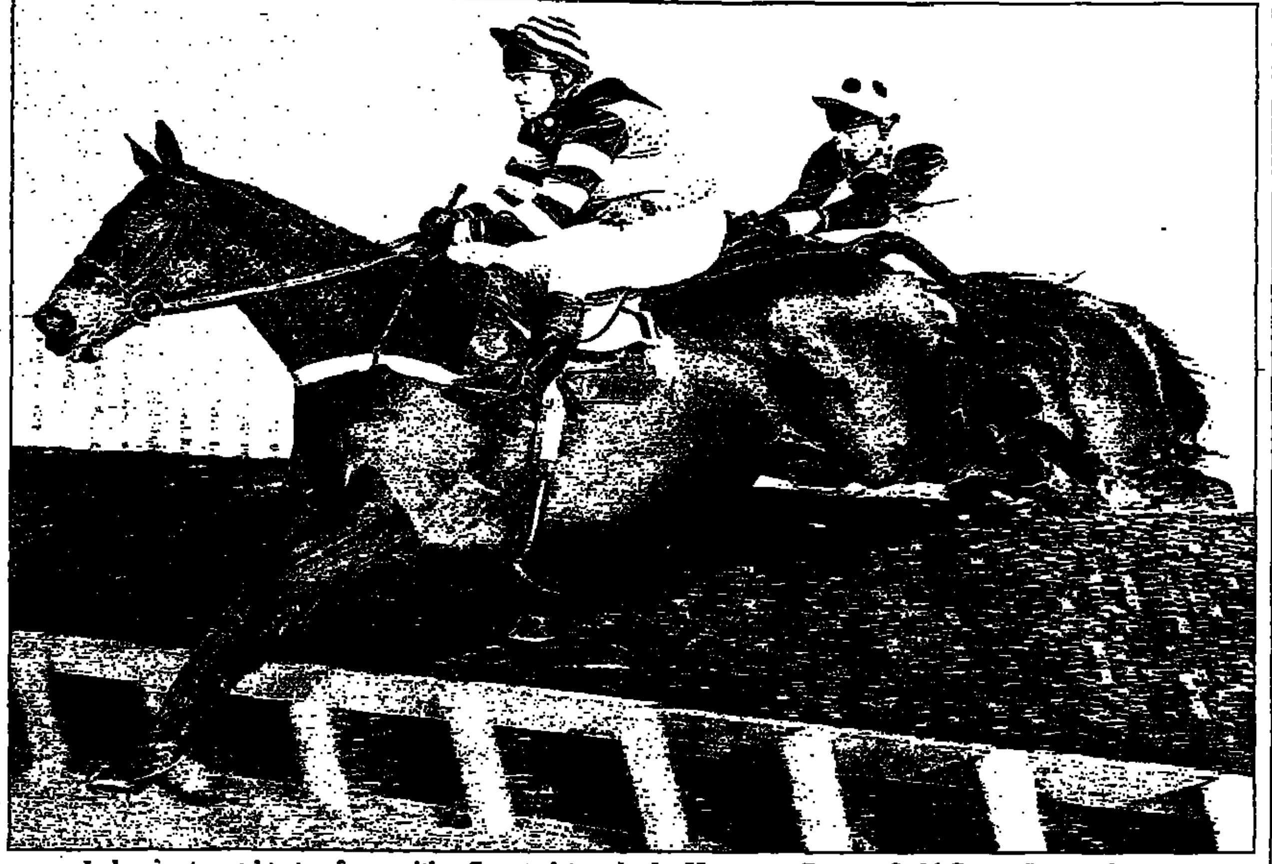
After a season riddled with disappointment, Jodami is now 6-4 favourite to emulate L'Escargot's consecutive Gold Cup victories, the first in 1970. "Everything just worked today," a relieved Beaumont said. "He will certainly improve on that — he was about 85 per cent ready and blew hard when he came back. It was a bonus for him not to have an unduly hard race."

John Mulhern, the ever-cautious trainer of Flashing Steel, wanted to sleep on a possible Gold Cup bid, but the chances are that owner Charles Haughey's enthusiasm will win the day. And so it should. Flashing Steel, a best-priced 14-1 shot, ran his best race. But Deep Bramble, an honourable second, is to miss the race.

Cheltenham is also the target for Merry Gale, a somewhat hollow winner of the WinElectric Chase over two miles, five furlongs after Belvederian, seemingly going the better, fell clumsily two fences out. However, Jim Dreaper, his trainer, is taking a longer-term view with his unfurnished six-year-old.

A tall but narrow animal, Merry Gale is more likely to bypass the Sun Alliance Chase. "He's had no rough and tumble in his races; he just hasn't had enough practice," said Dreaper, who believes he has a genuine Gold Cup candidate on his hands. Belvederian, however, will go straight to the race.

Meanwhile, Danoli, second to Fortune And Fame in the AIG Irish Champion Hurdle here last month, boosted that form with an impressive victory in the Deloitte and Touche Hurdle. He will make a formidable opponent for Large Action in the Sun Alliance Hurdle at Cheltenham.



Jodami returned to top form with a fluent victory in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: THE WHIP
(4.50 Plumpton)

Next best: Googly
(1.50 Plumpton)

Richard Evans was in good form on Saturday, landing a 13-1 double at Newbury with his nap, Brave Buccaneer (6-4), and the Tote Gold Trophy winner, Large Action (9-2).

NATIONAL HUNT LEADERS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Days since win	Level stakes
M Pipe	71	54	30	1	-17.88
Mrs M Reveley	69	58	34	1	-7.03
K Bailey	53	38	26	10	-6.62
D Nicholson	53	40	25	1	+34.28
N Twiston-Davies	48	35	35	3	-53.65
J White	40	24	25	3	-57.47
P Hobbs	39	28	26	3	+99.96
O Sherwood	30	20	19	1	+12.29
J Johnson	29	12	9	9	+95.01

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
A Maguire	120	103	80	4	+13.71
R Dunwoody	115	95	73	1	-76.37
J Osborne	75	56	40	0	-39.44
P Niven	65	51	30	0	-28.24
N Williamson	61	63	46	13	-70.96
G McCourt	48	36	29	0	-15.43
M A Fitzgerald	46	36	45	11	-73.11
D Murphy	40	37	31	4	-13.89
L Wyer	35	23	33	13	+42.19

Oriental flavouring adds spice to traditional fare

Confucius was hardly renowned for dispensing pearls on the subject of tipping winners. *However, at Newbury on* Saturday, the Chinese philosopher apparently graduated to the task with an aplomb to shame all but the most notorious of tipsters.

Evidently, a team of archeologists had discovered a series of his pronouncements that lay undetected by diggers of the calibre of the fifth Earl of Carnarvon, grandfather of the present Earl, himself chairman of Newbury racecourse. It was, of course, the fifth Earl who unearthed the tomb of *Tutankhamun in 1922.*

But back to Confucius, whose racing wisdom was enshrined in the fortune cookies *dispensed within* traditional Chinese Lai-See packets to the first 4,000 arrivals at the track.

One of them boldly pronounced: "Confucius say 38.2 per cent of favourites in non-handicap chases win at Newbury." Fine, except that the next cookie declared that the rate at which such favourites obliged was 60.6 per cent. Like the best of tipsters, Confucius clearly learned to hedge his bets.

This Oriental slant was embraced by the racecourse in commemoration of the Chinese new year, a theme prompted by the running of the Mandarin Chase, the first race on Saturday's ever-popular Gold Trophy fixture. It was Newbury's response to the British Horseracing Board's (BHB) request for greater promotion of the product, and it worked. It added a fresh and welcome *dimension to the usual fare.*

Members of the British Lion Dance Association played out their routine in the winner's enclosure, giant-sized Chinese lanterns hung from the weighing room roof, and the bookmakers got rich when both favourites for the two non-handicap chases on the card sank in the mud.

Meanwhile, a lucky couple won a week's holiday in Hong Kong and Macau. The less fortunate gained admission tickets for a later fixture, while others discovered free Tote betting vouchers inside their Lai-See. Lai-See loosely translates as "Lucky Money." Those following Confucius' advice will agree that the money was lucky only for the bookmakers.

JULIAN MUSCAT

Racing commentary

The Chinese new year promotion, advertised in the Sing Tao newspaper, attracted a number of Oriental couples, famed for their racecourse attendance in Hong Kong but largely absent from those in Britain. They will have seen British racing *at its best: an attractive card* at one of the better-kept venues, itself unusually swaythed in glorious winter sunshine. Newcomers not taking to the sport on Saturday will never do so.

This was the second such promotion at Newbury this year. Thanks to various sponsorships, it was staged for less than £4,000. Subsequent meetings will also be spiced with similar attractions, although few can be so pertinent as this, the Year of the Dog. To call a racehorse *a "dog" is to question its* enthusiasm. Perhaps we should look to them for our winners at the Cheltenham festival. There are a lot of them about.

Those unimpressed with the racing could have had their fortune told, Chinese-style. It proved irresistible, for the entire stock of 4,000 Lai-See packets were dispersed long before your correspondent's arrival. Feeling left out, I nevertheless approached the exercise with some considerable anxiety. It proved unfounded.

The astrologers were kind to those born in the Year of the Cow. Most of their gazings were of a personal nature, although one line was particularly encouraging. On a professional level, I was informed: "Salary increases and promotion are on the cards." I await these developments with interest.

HEREFORD

THUNDERER

1.30 Borreto
2.00 Cool Relation
2.30 Forgetful
3.00 Kiwi Velocity
3.30 Go Mary
4.00 Chain Shot
4.30 Colette's Choice

Brian Beel: 2.00 Tirley Missile.

GOING: SOFT (7AM INSPECTION) SIS

1.30 ARROW MAIDEN CLAIMING HURDLE
(£1,550: 2m 3f 110yd) (18 runners)

101 060 PRINCE RUBEN 54 (Col R Sherwright) T Forster 7-11-12 B Powell 89
102 0FP- DALEHOUSE LANE 333 (G Farndon) B Cambidge 6-11-10 Gary Lyons –
103 /04-60F MAHATMACOAT 17 (C Umdn) Mrs J Retter 7-11-10 M A Fitzgerald 73
104 533322- EASTERN PLEASURE 385 (T Wood) W Clay 7-11-6 Diane Clay 90
105 4-0 MOON MONKEY 87 (A Bennett) Mrs A King 6-11-6 W Marston –
106 0 ANNABEL'S BABY 144 (D Wintle) D Wintle 5-11-4 P McDermott –
107 3P-4044 BOLD STREET BLUES 19 (Dr G Meredith) J Bennett 7-11-4 C Llewellyn 🄱
108 00-06P CUMREWS NEPHEW 32 (B Cahill) R Brotherton 5-11-4 T Wall –
109 4033/ MISS MAGIC 639P (G Peter-Hoblyn) G Peter-Hoblyn 9-11-4 Mr G Maundrell –
110 28U46-0 TEA-LADY 70 (E Bosley) Mrs A King 6-11-3 S McNeill 90
111 2/P84 COLONIAL OFFICE 4 (B) (N Sawry) R Juckes 8-11-2 N Juckes (7) 87
112 06/PP ENTERPRISE PRINCE 17 (B) (Swiss Valley Racing) P Murphy 8-11-2 E Murphy –
113 /P0/P/ LEAVE IT OUT 698 (G Bregson) R Frost 12-11-2 J Frost –
114 B44U0P THE JET SET 9 (T Parrott) Mrs H Parrott 7-11-2 V Slattery 90
115 P-56024 BORRETO 10 (C James) C James 10-11-0 Mr E James (7) 94
116 FP/6P4 KATIEM'LU 63 (M Churches) M Churches 8-10-12 Mr B Pollock (7) –
117 3P-006P NORDROSS 21F (W Todd) J Peacock 8-10-11 R Bellamy 89
118 0U LIZZIE DRIPPIN 61 (R Robinson) M Usher 5-10-9 J Railton –

BETTING: 7-2 Bold Street Blues, 4-1 Eastern Pleasure, 5-1 Prince Ruben, 6-1 Borreto, 13-2 Mahatmacoat, 8-1 Tea-Lady, 12-1 The Jet Set, 16-1 others.

1993: MISS EQUILIA 7-10-13 P Scudamore (5-2) M Pipe 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

PRINCE RUBEN 20l 6th of 13 to progressive Nobiely (multiple winner since) in novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good) on penultimate start. EASTERN PLEASURE ½l 2nd of 10 to My Lindianne in *conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle at* Leicester (2m heavy).
BOLD STREET BLUES 19l 4th of 7 to The Golfing Curate in handicap hurdle at Lingfield (2m 3f 110yd, heavy). MISS MAGIC 16l 3rd of 8 to Arsonist in a novice hurdle at Towcester (2m, firm). TEA-LADY 10½l 7th of 14 to West Monkton Lady in a selling hurdle at Ludlow (2m, good to firm). *BORRETO 12l 2nd of 6 to Little Thyne in a novice* hurdle at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) on penultimate start.
Selection: EASTERN PLEASURE

2.00 TIMES RISING STARS HUNTERS CHASE
(Qualifier: amateurs: £1,953: 3m 1f 110yd) (9 runners)

RUNNERS AND RIDERS — SEE FACING PAGE

2.30 LEDBURY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,865: 2m 1f) (16 runners)

301 336-043 ALWAYS READY 108 (B,G) (Always Ready Partnership) R Lee 8-11-10 R Greene 89
302 0053P3 NORTHERN OPTIMIST 9 (CF) (G Hunt) B Llewellyn 6-11-6 Mr J L Llewellyn (7) 89
303 546/0-65 GARDA'S GOLD 37 (S) (G Brown) R Dickin 11-10-13 D Meredith (3) 89
304 2U024-0 CLOGHRAN LAD 12 (G,S) (D Wintle) D Wintle 7-10-13 W Marston 🄱
305 0/50654- CHARCOAL BURNER 290 (S) (T Schwaim) Mrs J Retter 9-10-12 M A Fitzgerald 92
306 334340 IMMORTAL IRISH 49 (F) (J Cresswell) J Cresswell 9-10-11 B Clifford 93
307 056P66 GROTIUS 18 (B,S) (Transit Employment) G Ham 10-10-8 R Davis (3) 95
308 03220 FORGETFUL 9F (The Equus Club) D Burchell 5-10-6 D J Burchell 92
309 P/91445- GAELGOIR 287 (S) (D Craddock) C Jackson 10-10-6 W Humphreys 94
310 0-11250 ITS ALL OVER NOW 70 (D,F) (Moor Farm Racing) Mrs A King 10-10-3 S McNeill 98
311 P0/06-34 AVERON 5 (B,S) (C Wildman) C Wildman 14-10-3 Lorna Vincent 90
312 P6P/P-23 JOKERS PATCH 21 (S) (D Lomas) R Baker 7-10-2 L Harvey 89
313 403304 BAYBEEJAY 21 (G) (J Hall) R Brotherton 7-10-0 D Bridgwater 98
314 5UUPPP TURKISH STAR 9 (K White) G Ham 9-10-0 S Mackey –
315 P/P0 LADY ROMANCE 9 (M Jones) B Llewellyn 6-10-0 Guy Lewis (5) –
316 /F/U0P-P HIGHLAND BRAVE 20 (Mrs Trish Williams) J Colston 7-10-0 N Williamson –

Long handicap: Turkish Star 9-13, Lady Romance 9-2, Highland Brave 9-1.

BETTING: 5-1 Averon, 6-1 Jokers Patch, 7-1 Forgetful, 8-1 Northern Optimist, 10-1 Always Ready, Charcoal Burner, 12-1 Cloghran Lad, Immortal Irish, 14-1 Garda's Gold, 16-1 others.

1993: CAVO GRECO 4-10-0 D Skyrme (12-1) J Joseph 21 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALWAYS READY 1l 3rd of 8 to Ruling Dynasty in a selling hurdle at Bangor (2m 1f, good) with GROTIUS 14l 7th. NORTHERN OPTIMIST 1l 3rd of 17 to One To Note in a selling hurdle at Chepstow (2m *110yd, soft).*
CLOGHRAN LAD creditable 2½l 2nd to Roger's Pal in selling handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, good) last season. GARDA'S GOLD 17l 5th of 9 to Ima Delight in a conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle at Warwick (3m, soft).
CHARCOAL BURNER 11½l 4th of 8 to Stoneyvul in a handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 1f, good). FORGETFUL 5l 2nd of 13 to Derrymoss in a conditional jockeys' selling hurdle over course and distance (soft) on penultimate start.
GAELGOIR 33l 5th of 12 to This Nettle Danger in handicap hurdle at Towcester (3m, firm). JOKERS PATCH 2l 2nd to Mildred Sophia in selling handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 1f, soft) on penultimate start with BAYBEEJAY (13lb better off) 4l 3rd.
Selection: BAYBEEJAY

3.00 TATTERSALLS MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE
(Qualifier: £2,801: 3m 1f 110yd) (13 runners)

401 406162 PRUDENT PEGGY 32 (S) (Mrs J McCormack) R Frost 7-11-1 J Frost 95
402 54423-0 APSIMORE 67 (J Tuck) J Tuck 7-10-10 S McNeill –
403 44-2462 DOLLY OATS 12 (R Fakes) R Eckley 8-10-10 M A Fitzgerald 82
404 0- FRENCH PLEASURE 305 (F) (W Dore) O Gandolfo 8-10-10 P Holley –
405 65P533 KETTI 9 (F,G,S) (Berkshire Components Ltd) D Williams 9-10-10 Mr G Hogan (7) 90
406 4-P2FP2 KIWI VELOCITY 17 (G,S) (A Stoddart) P Hobbs 7-10-10 L Harvey 🄱
407 MARNWORTH 352P (F,S) (O Sherwood) O Sherwood 8-10-10 M Richards –
408 R- MYSTIC MARTINET 270 (Mrs E Wilson) Mrs A Hewitt 8-10-10 R Bellamy –
409 P0/6PP-P PENARTH 9 (P Davenport) Mrs N Sharpe 8-10-10 V Slattery –
410 /PP/00F PHYL'S LEGACY 20 (Miss A Broyd) Miss A Broyd 9-10-10 D Bridgwater 73
411 0 PINE VALE 30 (Mrs D Hues) G Balding 6-10-10 Craig Thornton –
412 000/PPP QUEENS CURATE 111 (Mrs E Scott) Mrs E Scott 7-10-10 B Powell –
413 42-2523 RUSSINSKY 28 (Mrs E Clark) G Bravery 7-10-10 R J Beggan 96

BETTING: 6-4 Kiwi Velocity, 4-1 Russinsky, 5-1 Ketti, 6-1 Prudent Peggy, 7-1 Dolly Oats, 12-1 Marnworth, 14-1 French Pleasure, Apsimore, 16-1 others.

1993: BARRICA 6-10-10 C Llewellyn (5-2) D Nicholson 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

PRUDENT PEGGY 5l 2nd of 14 to Nicklup in Wincanton handicap chase (2m, good to soft). *APSIMORE distance 8th of 14 to Gort in Taunton* handicap hurdle (3m 110yd, good to soft). DOLLY OATS 25l 2nd of 7 to Honest Word in novice chase at Leicester (3m, good to soft). KETTI 27l 3rd of 8 to Coonawara in Chepstow novice chase (2m 110yd, soft). KIWI VELOCITY 2l 2nd of 7 to Run *Up The Flag in Wincanton novice chase (3m 1f* 110yd, good to soft). RUSSINSKY 16l 3rd of 6 to Coonawara in Fontwell novice chase (2m 1f, soft).
Selection: PRUDENT PEGGY

3.30 HOECHST PANACUR EBF MARES NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Qualifier: £2,334: 2m 3f 110yd) (17 runners)

501 506-1 GO MARY 20 (S) (Miss C Phillips) Miss C Phillips 8-11-5 W Marston 🄱
502 0- ARAGON MIST 348 (Mrs C Lewis) Mrs N Sharpe 5-10-12 M Bosley –
503 0 ARCHIE'S SISTER 30 (B Clifford) R Dickin 5-10-12 D Meredith (3) –
504 1- AVENA 278 (F) (Mrs Z Clark) S Christian 7-10-12 G Upton –
505 6400 BRIDEPARK ROSE 12 (T Segrue) M Muggeridge 6-10-12 M Ahern 84
506 00-0 CELTIC EMERALD 58 (Mrs M Eckley) R Eckley 6-10-12 I Lawrence –
507 1- FINALLY FANTAZIA 263 (S) (P Burton) Mrs I McKie 5-10-12 R J Beggan –
508 4F HENRY'S SISTER 8 (R Macauley) M Wilkinson 7-10-12 P Ward (7) –
509 0 KELLSBORO KATE 75 (J Charlton) P Hobbs 7-10-12 M Hourigan –
510 6 MRS MONEYPENNY 30 (C Coorage) M Wilkinson 5-10-12 S Earle –
511 05546-3 RACE TO THE RHYTHM 9 (Race Transmission) N Twiston-Davies 7-10-12 C Llewellyn 94
512 22-03 SLIPMATIC 18 (E Wilkinson) P Jones 5-10-12 N Williamson 91
513 4 SWEET MANATTE 12 (S Hudd) B Palling 7-10-12 C Maude –
514 P/00-006 THE QUAKER 12 (R Hawker) R Hawker 8-10-12 Lorna Vincent 84
515 00 TITAN EMPRESS 12 (Rodiaes Partnership) S Mellor 5-10-12 Chris Webb (7) –
516 6/224 TOO SHARP 42 (Sir Anthony Scott) Miss H Knight 6-10-12 M A Fitzgerald 94
517 00-4F WONDERFULL POLLY 95 (J Olds) P Nicholls 6-10-12 Guy Lewis (5) 87

BETTING: 5-2 Go Mary, 4-1 Too Sharp, 6-1 Slipmatic, 8-1 Race To The Rhythm, 10-1 Avena, Finally Fantazia, 12-1 Wonderfull Polly, 14-1 Celtic Emerald, 16-1 others.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

GO MARY beat With Impunity 25l in a 13-runner handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, soft). AVENA beat Prince Of Prey 10l in a 15-runner National Hunt flat race here (2m 1f, good to firm). FINALLY FANTAZIA beat Coney Road 1½l in a 17-runner National Hunt flat race here (2m 1f, soft). *RACE TO THE RHYTHM 9l 3rd of 15 to* *Lansdowne in a handicap hurdle at Stratford (2m 6f* 110d, soft). SLIPMATIC 15l 3rd of 16 to Gales Cavalier in a novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft).
TOO SHARP 12l 4th of 14 to Mister Nova in a novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, soft).
Selection: GO MARY (nap)

4.00 LUGG HANDICAP CHASE (£2,749: 2m) (6 runners)

601 24-4262 CHAIN SHOT 47 (D,F,G) (H McEwan) J Peacock 9-11-10 N Williamson 98
602 223113 DEXTRA DOVE 18 (D,F,G,S) (Dextra Lighting Systems) R Alner 7-11-7 S Earle 96
603 12/212-2 BOLD CHOICE 109 (F,G) (J Joseph) R Frost 8-11-0 J Frost 🄱
604 0UP313- ENCHANTED MAN 332 (F,G,S) (Mrs J Morris) R Lee 10-10-10 M A Fitzgerald 87
605 FF-112P BARONESS ORKZY 82 (D,S) (C Paterson) P Nicholls 8-10-6 Guy Lewis (5) 95
606 4-22334 BOSSBURG 42 (D,BF,S) (Mrs K Lloyd) B McCann 7-10-0 C Llewellyn 97

Long handicap: Bossburg 9-13.

BETTING: 2-1 Chain Shot, 3-1 Dextra Dove, 4-1 Bold Choice, 6-1 Enchanted Man, Baroness Orkzy, 12-1 Bossburg.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

CHAIN SHOT 6l 2nd of 6 to It's Nearly Time in handicap chase at Stratford (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). DEXTRA DOVE 22½l 3rd of 4 to Martha's Son in a handicap chase at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft). *BOLD CHOICE 12l 2nd of 4 to Mere Class in* a handicap chase at Kempton (3m, good to firm). ENCHANTED MAN 4l 3rd of 9 to Tum'am Back Jack in a handicap chase at Worcester (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm). BARONESS ORKZY best recent effort to beat Father Ralph 12l in handicap *chase at Newton Abbot (2m 110yd, soft).*
Selection: BOLD CHOICE

4.30 HARRY ISAACS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,896: 2m 1f) (17 runners)

1 211210 HANDY LASS 49 (C,BF,F,G,S) (G Hadding) Mrs A Knight 5-12-0 D Matthews (5) 93
2 2-063 THE CHANGELING 19 (D Clant) G Bravery 5-11-13 R J Beggan 87
3 000-4F0 COLETTE'S CHOICE 32 (J Cooper) G Ham 5-11-9 D Fortt (5) 81
4 380-045 TEST MATCH 20 (S) (T Theaker) W Clay 7-11-8 Diane Clay 89
5 085 TENAYESTELIGN 18 (G King) D Marks 6-11-7 J McCarthy (3) 87
6 F00 ROBENKO 12 (B) (Miss B Murphy) G Charles-Jones 5-11-1 B Powell –
7 50-0403 MARINER'S AIR 13 (Mrs P Badger) J Spearing 7-10-12 N Williamson 98
8 0054U FIRST CENTURY 20 (Merthyr Car Auction Ltd) B Llewellyn 5-10-11 Mr J L Llewellyn (7) 95
9 B4FP-61 SCARBA 13 (S) (B Gordon) D Garraton 6-10-9 K Davies (7) 97
10 5-P0P SALINGER 47 (Miss E O'Shea) M Barraclough 6-10-5 V Smith 90
11 04000/0- KILLTUBBER HOUSE 490 (G Brookes) R Lee 8-10-5 L Harvey –
12 000 SO AUDACIOUS 67 (Mrs D Fletcher) N Gaselee 6-10-5 C Llewellyn 80
13 530612 PRINCETHORPE 13 (S) (G Farndon) B Cambidge 7-10-4 D Meredith (3) 97
14 05-02PU ALTISHAR 37 (R Brickworth) D Gandolfo 6-10-3 P Holley 97
15 326PPP- SARAH'S WROATH 283 (Mrs V Stockdale) M Scudamore 9-10-0 R Bellamy 🄱
16 B0FP-00 KEMALS DELIGHT 33 (P Gormley) C Broad 7-10-0 Jacqui Oliver –
17 0PPP-0P FERRUFINO 9 (P Richy) P Rich 6-10-0 P McDermott –

Long handicap: Kemals Delight 9-13, Ferrufino 9-11

BETTING: 9-2 Scarba, 11-2 Princethorpe, 6-1 First Century, 8-1 Handy Lass, 9-1 Mariner's Air, 10-1 The Changeling, 12-1 Tenayestelign, Test Match, 14-1 others.

1993: FEARLESS FRED 6-11-1 M Fitzgerald (8-1) Mrs J Retter 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

HANDY LASS beat Glenfern Princess 7l in a 13-runner novices' handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, heavy) on penultimate start with COLETTE'S CHOICE (7lb better off) in 3rd when falling 2 out. THE CHANGELING 2¼l 3rd of 16 to Mames Boy in a novice hurdle at Lingfield (2m 110yd, heavy). TEST MATCH 14l 5th of 22 to Moorish in a novice hurdle at Nottingham (2m, soft). TENAYESTELIGN 49½l 5th of 16 to Foxmays in a novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft). SCARBA beat PRINCETHORPE (3lb better off) 2½l in a 14-runner handicap hurdle at Nottingham (2m, heavy) with MARINER'S AIR (4lb better off) ¾l 3rd.
Selection: THE CHANGELING

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Elsworth's hope new Champion favourite

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

THE volatile Champion Hurdle *market erupted once more* at Newbury on Saturday when Oh So Risky, narrowly defeated under 12 stone in the Tote Gold Trophy, nevertheless usurped Fortune And Fame's long-held position as favourite for the Cheltenham *showpiece.*

Mike Dillon, the Ladbrokes representative, promptly halved Oh So Risky's big-race *odds to 3-1 after the seven-*year-old, trained by David Elsworth, failed to contain the novice, Large Action, by a *short head. Ridden with great* restraint by Paul Holley, Oh So Risky made up acres of ground to show in front after jumping the last.

However, a lack of seasoning, coupled with the 20lb weight concession, finally caught up with him as he succumbed to Large Action's late rally in a stirring finish. It was the horse's first seasonal outing over hurdles, and it *came on unsuitably testing* ground.

Elsworth, also the trainer of Muse, a 12-1 shot for the *Champion, found it hard to* contain his enthusiasm for Oh So Risky's Champion chance. "I feel he certainly has the *ability to win at Cheltenham,"* he said. "We need a bit of luck in running, but otherwise he must have a wonderful chance."

Oliver Sherwood, the trainer of Large Action, deferred judgment on whether to renew rivalry with Oh So Risky on March 15. His immediate reaction after the Newbury triumph was to favour a tilt at the Sun Alliance Hurdle, surely a more realistic option for this imposing horse.

Another major festival pointer was the victory of Viking Flagship, who relished the ground in the Mitsubishi Shogun Game Spirit Handicap Chase over an extended two miles. *The seven-year-old* showed far too much resolution for Sybillin.

Frost threat

The meetings at Hereford and Plumpton today hinge on inspections. Plumpton was fit for racing yesterday but the clerk of the course, Cliff Griggs, said: "The forecast is for frost and we will inspect again." Heavy frost is also forecast at Hereford.

PLUMPTON

THUNDERER

1.50 Googly. 2.20 Nathir. 2.50 Days Of Thunder. 3.20 Irish Bay. 3.50 General Mouktar. 4.20 Double Silk. 4.50 Anilaffed.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.50 SOVEREIGN NICHE.

Brian Beel: 4.20 Double Silk.

GOING: HEAVY (SOFT IN PLACES) SIS
7.15AM INSPECTION

1.50 MARTIN WYNN NOVICES HURDLE
(£1,543: 2m 1f) (7 runners)

1 2421 *BALLET ROYAL 7 (S) G Harwood 5-11-6* M Perrett 🄱
2 1 GOOGLY 21 (S) J White 5-11-1 A Maguire 89
3 5 FENGARI 63 A Aylett 5-11-0 D Gallagher 88
4 23-4 GOLD GLEN 69 (B) P Makin 6-11-0 Richard Guest 83
5 0 THE POWER OF ONE 116 M Pipe 5-11-0 R Dunwoody –
6 -000 FORTUNES COURSE 42 J King 5-10-9 T Jenks (5) 67
7 P- LYCIAN MOON 487 A Foster 5-10-9 E Byrne –

7-4 Googly, 2-1 Ballet Royal, 11-2 The Power Of One, 8-1 Fengari, 12-1 Gold Glen, 16-1 Fortune Course, 20-1 Lycian Moon.

2.20 SUSAN PAYNE LOVE YOU ALWAYS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,709: 2m) (4)

1 2-31 NATHIR 14 (CD,S) P Butler 8-12-0 A Maguire 95
2 3253 FRED SPLENDID 14 (CD,S) R Hodges 11-11-6 R Dunwoody 95
3 UP-P COLNE VALLEY KID 19 (B,S) D Browning 9-10-0 R Rowell –
4 0PP2 DEEP IN GREEK 14 D Williams 8-10-0 A Thornton (3) 🄱

4-7 Nathir, 5-2 Fred Splendid, 7-1 Deep In Greek, 16-1 Colne Valley Kid

2.50 ST VALENTINE'S DAY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,661: 2m 1f) (4)

1 021- DAYS OF THUNDER 364 (CD,G) J White 6-12-3 A Maguire 91
2 020 HERETICAL MISS 6F J Ffitch-Heyes 4-11-0 D Gallagher 80
3 06P- SOVEREIGN NICHE 254 (V,G) M Pipe 6-10-2 R Dunwoody 🄱
4 6335 DO BE WARE 14 J Ffitch-Heyes 4-10-0 A Thornton (3) 83

Evens Days Of Thunder, 6-4 Sovereign Niche, 10-1 Do Be Ware, 14-1 Heretical Miss.

3.20 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE
(Qualifier: £2,256: 3m 1f 110yd) (5)

1 -1F3 *MR FLANAGAN 23 (B) C Brooks 8-11-3* G Bradley 92
2 BLARNEY CASTLE J Long 7-10-10 R Rowell –
3 5UF2 IRISH BAY 7 (B,F,G,S) C Egerton 8-10-10 J Osborne 🄱
4 2320 LOBRIC 18 (B,F,G) J Jenkins 9-10-10 A Maguire 82
5 -443 *MR MATT 14 (S) D Gessell 8-10-10* Peter Hobbs –

6-4 Mr Flanagan, 7-4 Irish Bay, 6-1 Lobric, 9-1 Mr Matt, 14-1 Blarney Castle.

3.50 *LOVELY LISA JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE*
(£1,543: 2m 1f) (4)

1 5314 SILVER STANDARD 14 (S) T Forster 11-4 R Farrant (3) 🄱
2 GENERAL MOUKTAR 148F M Pipe 10-12 R Dunwoody –
3 53 SHAMSHADAL 9 J Jenkins 10-12 A Maguire 87
4 P CLASSY KAHYASI 14 T McGovern 10-7 W McFarland –

4-7 General Mouktar, 5-2 Silver Standard, 7-1 Shamshadal, 16-1 Classy Kahyasi

4.20 FLYAWAY CHALLENGE CUP HUNTERS CHASE
(Amateurs: £1,632: 3m 1f 110yd) (6)

1 11-1 DOUBLE SILK 20 (D,F,G,S) R Wilkins 10-12-8 R Treloggen (5) 🄱
2 32-3 WREKIN HILL 16P (D,G,S) Mrs J Wilkinson 12-12-8 Mrs J Wilkinson (7) 81
3 26-2 TRYUMPHANT LAD 10 (CD,F,G,S) M Deasley 10-12-5 S Deasley (7) 70
4 122- BLUE DANUBE 270 (F,S) S Allen 10-12-0 Andrew Martin (7) 78
5 24-1 MALTBY BOY 9P (F,G,S) Mrs A Hickman 11-12-0 Mrs A Hickman (7) 61
6 PPP/ PEA SAL 1141 Mrs J Mann 11-12-0 C Gordon (7) –

□ Form figures include point-to-points

4-9 Double Silk, 6-1 Tryumphant Lad, 7-1 Wrekin Hill, 8-1 Blue Danube, 10-1 Maltby Boy, 40-1 Pea Sal

4.50 VICTORIA, HENLEY-ON-THAMES NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,804: 2m 4f) (11)

1 -004 FLY GUARD 24 D Barons 7-11-10 R Dunwoody 86
2 3242 *THE WHIP 19 D Gessell 7-11-8* Peter Hobbs 97
3 5501 ANILAFFED 12 (V,S) J Akehurst 4-11-1 D Gallagher 97
4 043P MAKING TIME 17 G Humphrey 7-10-10 J Osborne 92
5 P0P- ALL TALK NO ACTION 293 B Curley 5-10-3 D Murphy –
6 0506 GREEN'S GAME 7 N Mitchell 6-10-0 Miss S Mitchell (7) 91
7 34-4 GREEN WALK 83 R Rowe 7-10-0 C Burnett-Wells (5) 🄱
8 P00 BISHOPS TRUTH 42 R Curtis 8-10-0 D Morris 95
9 0/P PENLEA LADY 32 Mrs M Jones 7-10-0 A Maguire 80
10 0PP BALLYGRIFFIN LAD 62 T McGovern 5-10-0 W McFarland –
11 /P0 GRAND COLONIST 19 R Dean 7-10-0 A Procter (3) –

11-4 Anilaffed, 7-2 The Whip, 5-1 Green Walk, 7-1 All Talk No Action, 11-1 Fly Guard, 12-1 Green's Game, 14-1 Making Time, 16-1 Bishops Truth, 20-1 others.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

2.10 Surprise Guest. 2.40 Samson-Agonistes. 3.10 *Four Of Spades. 3.40* ***QUICK SILVER BOY*** *(nap).* 4.10 Horizon. 4.40 Dime Time. 5.10 Mexican Dancer.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.10 *SWEET NOTHINGS MAIDEN STAKES*
(3-Y-O: £3,319: 1m 1f 79yd) (10 runners)

1 ANOTHERONEFORJAYBE P Evans 9-0 A Clark 4
2 330- DANTE'S RUBICON 123 J Bethell 9-0 J Marshall (5) 1
3 20-0 GREENBACK 21 S Williams 9-0 K Darley 3
4 6- *IDLE HOUND 208 M Prescott 9-0* G Duffield 10
5 3-44 JOLLY SWAGMAN 18 Lord Huntingdon 9-0 L Dettori 7
6 40-0 MYTTON'S CHOICE 37 A Bailey 9-0 A Mackay 2
7 -343 SURPRISE GUEST 34 M Johnston 9-0 J Weaver 5
8 8- BINNWOOD LADY 9 M Eckley 8-9 J Williams 8
9 35-0 OLYMPIC BID 10 C Allen 8-9 E Guest 6
10 0 SWEETLITTLEMYSTERY 37 E Alston 8-9 J Quinn 9

5-2 Surprise Guest, 7-2 Dante's Rubicon, 4-1 Jolly Swagman, 5-1 Greenback, 13-2 Idle Hound, 12-1 Olympic Bid, 14-1 Mytton's Choice, 20-1 others.

2.40 BE MY VALENTINE CLAIMING GUARANTEED STAKES (£2,243: 5f) (13)

1 0-05 DAANIERA 14 (B,D,G,S) P Howling 4-9-1 K Darley 10
2 -040 AUGHFAD 6 (V,CD,F,G,S) T Casey 8-8-13 D Holland 12
3 2221 SAMSON-AGONISTES 14 (CD,F,G,S) P Evans 8-8-13 A Clark 1
4 6510 VERY DICEY 9 (CD,F,G) J Berry 6-8-13 Ruth Coulter (7) 3
5 6-36 SIR TASKER 13 (CD,F,G) J Harris 6-8-11 Darren Moffatt (5) 5
6 6622 HERSHEBAR 9 (B,D,G) S Bowring 4-8-9 J Weaver 8
7 020-6 NILE DELTA 17 (F) J Eyre 5-8-9 J Tate (5) 9
8 00-4 *TRIOMING 35 (D,F) A Jones 8-8-9* Dale Gibson 11
9 5-01 BRISAS 28 (V,CD,F,G) C Fairhurst 7-8-5 J Fanning 7
10 0060- EVERSET 224 (F,G) D Cosgrove 6-8-5 L Newton (5) 4
11 30-4 LITTLE OSBORNE 14 (B,BF) C Williams 4-8-4 J Quinn 2
12 4512 SIMMIE'S SPECIAL 7 (B,C,D,BF,G,S) R Hollinshead 6-8-4 L Dettori 13
13 00-0 *TOMMY TEMPEST 42 (D,S) A Bailey 5-8-3* D Wright (5) 6

5-2 Samson-Agonistes, 9-2 Simmie's Special, 5-1 Very Dicey, 7-1 Hershebar, 8-1 Aughfad, Brisas, 10-1 Sir Tasker, 12-1 Little Osborne, 14-1 Daaniera, 20-1 others.

3.10 BUTTONS AND BOWS HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,085: 5f) (6)

1 014- ALLLEGSNOBRAIN 158 (D,F) P Evans 9-7 A Clark 5
2 016- THE FERNHILL FLYER 121 (B,D,G) J Berry 9-6 J Carroll 3
3 3-13 *FOUR OF SPADES 9 (B,D,BF,G) B Beasley 9-3* K Darley 6
4 3-32 GRAMMAS DELIGHT 9 K Ivory 8-11 J Weaver 2
5 3-02 BLUE DOMAIN 9 R Hollinshead 8-4 M Humphries (7) 4
6 05-0 ANGELIC DANCER 28 (B) S Bowring 7-8 J Quinn 1

5-2 Grammas Delight, 3-1 Four Of Spades, 7-2 The Fernhill Flyer, 9-2 Blue Domain, 6-1 Alllegsnobrain, 16-1 Angelic Dancer.

3.40 HEARTS AND ROSES HANDICAP
(£3,319: 1m 4f) (9)

1 5/1-1 HOLY WANDERER 17 (D,G) D Arbuthnot 5-9-10 J Williams 9
2 010- DANCING TRALTHEE 145 (D,F) J Payne 4-8-13 L Dettori 8
3 10-0 GLOWING PATH 7 (F,S) R Hodges 4-8-7 J Quinn 5
4 5-60 RASAYEL 9 (B) P Evans 4-8-3 A Clark 7
5 123- QUICK SILVER BOY 12J (F,G) D Burchell 4-8-3 R Price 6
6 0-35 ROLY WALLACE 7 (V,F) A Forbes 5-8-1 N Adams 2
7 256/ BRIGHT SAPPHIRE 32J J Bradley 8-8-0 M Baird (7) 3
8 25-2 HEAD TURNER 9 (G,S) C Wildman 6-7-13 C Rutter 4
9 0500 ARRASAS LADY 7 (B) J Long 4-7-7 G Bardwell 1

9-4 Holy Wanderer, 3-1 Head Turner, 5-1 Quick Silver Boy, 13-2 Dancing Tralthee, 8-1 Glowing Path, Roly Wallace, 12-1 Rasayel, 16-1 others.

4.10 CUPID CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,624: 2m 46yd) (13)

1 123/ AMBUSCADE 16J (S) E Alston 8-9-6 J Quinn 12
2 163/ TRUMPET 122J (F,G) J O'Shea 5-9-5 T Wall 10
3 4-04 HORIZON 9 (B,F,G) T Thomson Jones 6-9-1 D Biggs 7
4 624- ROYAL PRINT 222 W Muir 5-9-1 Kim McDonnell 11
5 /63 LAABAS 14 (S) J Long 11-8-13 D Wright (5) 4
6 06/0- RACK RATE 19J (G) P Leach 6-8-13 S Whitworth 6
7 0-83 BONNIFER 9 (F) J Berry 5-8-12 J Carroll 2
8 3 SWORDKING 7 (V,BF) J Harris 5-8-12 Paul Eddery 3
9 65/0- SULTAN'S SON 128J (F) K Bridgwater 8-8-11 P McCabe (5) 9
10 406- A GENTLEMAN TWO 6J (G) J Eyre 8-8-8 L Dettori 5
11 /000- APRIL CITY 9J (S) C Smith 5-8-8 K Rutter (5) 8
12 56-5 NORTHERN JUDY 9 R Hollinshead 4-7-13 A Garth (5) 1
13 04-0 DANCES WITH GOLD 38 P Evans 4-7-11 N Kennedy (3) 13

11-4 Horizon, 9-2 Swordking, 5-1 Laabas, 6-1 Bonnifer, Royal Print, 14-1 Ambuscade, 20-1 others.

4.40 KISS AND CUDDLE MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,290: 7f) (8)

1 -522 ALPINE JOHNNY 7 R Hollinshead 9-0 S Parks 5
2 0-5 BLACK DEED 21 P Cundell 9-0 S Whitworth 3
3 063- CURIE CRUSADER 105 J Berry 9-0 J Carroll 2
4 4- DIME TIME 122 J Gosden 9-0 L Dettori 4
5 DRY GINGER Lord Huntingdon 9-0 K Darley 6
6 SUPERMICK W Muir 9-0 D Holland 7
7 -043 CAPITAL LADY 7 B Rothwell 8-9 D Harrison 1
8 460- CIZARGA 121 D Cosgrove 8-9 M Wigham 8

11-10 Dime Time, 4-1 Curie Crusader, 5-1 Alpine Johnny, 7-1 others.

5.10 SWEETHEART APPRENTICES HANDICAP STAKES
(£2,243: 1m 100yd) (13)

1 3140 POP TO STANS 7 (CD,BF,F,G) J Pearce 5-9-10 Elizabeth Turner (5) 9
2 00-2 GREEK GOLD 9 (G) J Glover 5-9-7 Darren Moffatt 8
3 4-00 KILLY'S FILLY 7 (G) J Bradley 4-9-3 S Drowne (3) 2
4 2-42 ROYAL ACCLAIM 7 (V,D,F,G,S) J Bradley 9-8-12 P McCabe 6
5 600- THE SNOUT 115J C Hamsley 4-8-11 A Eddery (7) 11
6 050/ FLIM FLAM ALY 808 L Barratt 5-8-10 D Wright 10
7 04-00 SALUTING WALTER 9 (D,G) P Evans 6-8-8 S Sanders (3) 12
8 65-01 SUPER HEIGHTS 7 (V,CD,F,G) D Williams 6-8-5 (6ex) Aimee Cook (5) 7
9 0-00 MEXICAN DANCER 27 (D,G,S) P Howling 5-8-2 N Gwilliams 4
10 /405- SEA-AYR 101J Mrs S Austin 4-8-1 J Marshall (3) 3
11 -000 CAPTAIN TANDY 9 K Bridgwater 5-7-13 L Newton 13
12 020- DOUBLE THE STAKES 12J D Burchell 5-7-11 N Varley (3) 1
13 236- MAI PEN RAI 81J (D,F,S) R Hodges 6-7-8 M Baird (5) 5

3-1 Super Heights, 4-1 Greek Gold, 9-2 Pop To Stans, 6-1 Royal Acclaim, 10-1 Killy's Filly, 12-1 Double The Stakes, 14-1 Mexican Dancer, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS AT THREE MEETINGS

HEREFORD: Trainers: R Alner, 3 winners from 7 runners, 42.9%. O Sherwood, 7 from 18, 38.9%. N Twiston-Davies, 11 from 35, 31.4%. S Christian, 5 from 17, 29.4%. M Scudamore, 4 from 15, 26.7%.

Jockeys: Diane Clay, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%. J McCarthy, 3 from 9, 33.3%. D J Burchell, 13 from 40, 32.5%. Jacqui Oliver, 4 from 16, 25.0%. M Hourigan, 4 from 18, 22.2%.

PLUMPTON: Trainers: C Egerton, 10 winners from 19 runners, 52.6%. C Brooks, 5 from 12, 41.7%. J King, 4 from 11, 36.4%. M Pipe, 11 from 37, 29.7%. J White, 33 from 123, 26.8%. G Harwood, 5 from 23, 21.7%.

Jockeys: A Maguire, 33 winners from 106 rides, 31.1%. G Bradley, 5 from 20, 25.0%. R Dunwoody, 28 from 114, 24.6%. J Osborne, 9 from 41, 22.0%. W McFarland, 6 from 29, 20.7%.

WOLVERHAMPTON: Trainers: M Johnston, 4 winners from 12 runners, 33.3%. Lord Huntingdon, 4 from 13, 30.8%. J Harris, 3 from 11, 27.3%. P Evans, 4 from 19, 21.1%. A Bailey, 4 from 20, 20.0%. E Alston, 3 from 15, 20.0%.

Jockeys: J Weaver, 7 winners from 32 rides, 21.9%. G Bardwell, 3 from 15, 20.0%. A Clark, 3 from 16, 18.8%. L Dettori, 6 from 34, 17.6%. J Williams, 4 from 29, 13.8%.

Shearer's pursuit keeps Blackburn in title chase


Shearer: single minded

Tottenham Hotspur.....0
Blackburn Rovers 2

BY KEITH PIKE

SUDDENLY, what had seemed impossible now appears merely improbable. Manchester United, who looked to have broken the field in the championship marathon, may yet be involved in a sprint to the line.

United, 16 points clear at one stage, have had their lead trimmed to ten by Blackburn Rovers, and by the time they return to FA Carling Premiership duties after the distractions of the FA Cup and Coca-Cola Cup, could find the gap down to four, with a summit meeting scheduled for Ewood Park at Easter. The race is back on.

All Blackburn have to do is keep on winning, and they have got the taste. This victory on Saturday was their sixth in succession in the league, they have taken 28 points out of the last 30, and during that run only United themselves have been able to hold them, forcing a fortuitous draw on Boxing Day. Alex Ferguson's hares may have designs on the treble, but the championship momentum is firmly with Kenny Dalglish's tortoises.

The odds still favour United. A month ago they came to White Hart Lane and merely toyed with Tottenham before Mark Hughes put them out of their misery. Blackburn had to work harder, defend more vigorously, before making their superiority count with two goals in the last half an hour.

But, as United are able to chop and change their line-up at will without disturbing their rhythm, so Blackburn are building a squad that, if this season does prove a year too soon, could by next year have the depth to rival them. Hendry, Newell and Warhurst are all some way from full fitness. Sherwood's more recent injury could keep him out for six weeks, and on Saturday they were without Batty. But in came Atkins and Marker with no apparent ill-effects. It was the most gratifying aspect of the day, Dalglish, the Rovers manager, said.

And then there is Alan Shearer. For all United's flair and match-winning potential from every area of the field, neither they nor anybody else in England possesses a forward so single minded in pursuit of goals yet so steeped in the work ethic. Wright may score more spectacularly, Cole may be quicker, but only Rush of the modern strikers has been so effective when not on the ball. The goal that gave Blackburn the lead in this match was a perfect demonstration of Shearer's qualities.

Wrestling with Nethercott for possession ten yards inside the Tottenham half on the left, Shearer's strength was not enough to prevent the young defender laying the ball off to Sedgley. But where others would have shrugged their shoulders, Shearer gave chase.

Possession was won back with a forceful block tackle, Gallacher released, and after the ball had been transferred sweetly between Ripley, Berg, Gallacher and Ripley again, Shearer was beyond the far post for Ripley's cross, fully extended but with the power to direct his header back across, and over, Walker. It was his fiftieth goal for Blackburn in his 59th appearance.

Gallacher got the second from Atkins's astute pass, and Tottenham were plunged further into disarray. They have lost six Premiership games in succession, have not won at home in the league in ten attempts, and for all that they worked hard and stayed true to their manager's principles, it is difficult to say where their next point is coming from.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-1-3-2): I Walker — D Austin, S Nethercott, K Scott, J Edinburgh — S Sedgley — D Anderton, V Samways, D Caskey — R Rosenthal, N Barmby.
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — H Berg, D May, K Moran, G Le Saux — S Ripley, N Marker, M Atkins, J Wilcox — K Gallacher, A Shearer.
Referee: J Borrett.

City revival stutters in front of frustrated faithful

Manchester City.....0
West Ham United.....0

BY PETER BALL

TO MARK their centenary in August, Manchester City plan matches against Real Madrid, Barcelona or AC Milan. Unless they start scoring some goals, their other fixtures that month might be against less glamorous opposition, such as Barnsley, Stoke, Luton and other members of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division.

"The first thing I can promise you is that we will NOT be relegated." Francis Lee wrote in the first chairman's column of the new regime. Perhaps not, but a draw with an unambitious West Ham leaves them still far too close to the relegation zone.

"Bring Back Swales", shouted one supporter as he left. If his laugh revealed another Mancunian comedian rather than a dissident after the euphoria of the previous week, it was back to mundane reality.

The arrival of Lee has had a galvanising effect on the club and its supporters, with 29,000 turning up for a fixture which promised little and produced less, but there is still a struggle ahead as West Ham's former City forward Clive Allen said after the match.

"Franny's coming has obviously sorted out all the disputes off the field, and things are settled for them now," he said. "But he can't get in the penalty area and score their goals for them, can he?

"I don't think they will go down, but to be brutally honest, they've got to win their home games."

Allen might have added that in particular they need to beat teams like West Ham. With his position far from secure, February had offered Brian Horton a kind fixture list, but to turn that to account his side will need to convert chances into goals and on Saturday that proved beyond them. The best chances fell to Shutt, who does a lot right. On one occasion he broke free to meet Edghill's cross with a header of impressive power from virtually a standing start, and on another struck a fine volley.

But the header flew a foot over the bar and the shot went straight into Miklosko's midriff. Signing a goalscorer will be Horton's first task when Lee releases the money this week or next. And the blame for Saturday's failure should not be entirely heaped on the strikers. Edghill and Rocastle both reached the byline inside the penalty area and then wasted their crosses as colleagues piled in eagerly.

At least City did not throw it away, although for a time that looked the likeliest outcome, but with Chapman making little impact and Clive Allen understandably rusty in his first appearance in five months since injuring his knee, there was little serious threat.

With all last week's upsets, West Ham are beginning to think optimistically about the FA Cup, but they will need to play better to impress Kidderminster Harriers, let alone any Endsleigh League giants in later rounds.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-3-3): A Coton — R Edghill, K Curle (sub: A Kernaghan 32 mins), M Vonk, T Phelan — D Rocastle, S McMahon, G Fitzroft — C Shutt (sub: S Lomas 74min), C Griffiths, M Sheron.
WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L Miklosko — T Breacker, K Brown, S Potts, K Rowland — M Marsh (sub: P Marquis 87min), I Bishop, M Allen, M Holmes — L Chapman, C Allen (Sub: T Morley, 75min).
Referee: V Callow.

Arsenal frustrated at Carrow Road

Ekoku equal to task of earning Norwich a point

Norwich City.....1
Arsenal 1

BY KEITH PIKE

THIS was a match, and a result, that offered little in the way of encouragement that either of these teams can qualify for another European campaign via their League positions. Events at Carrow Road yesterday strengthened the belief that Manchester United and Blackburn apart, mediocrity abounds in the Premiership.

Had the referee not missed one of the more obvious penalty awards of the season, when Newman clearly tripped Parlour twenty minutes from time, or had Parlour not shot at Gunn's legs when through in the last minute, Arsenal might yet have been celebrating a complete recovery from their FA Cup defeat at Bolton's hands. As it is, their fourth successive League draw leaves them trailing Blackburn by ten points, having played a game more.

At least Arsenal still have the European Cup Winners' Cup to prolong their ambitions. Norwich, still seeking their first win since John Deehan was confirmed as manager, are surely now out of the running.

On a bitterly cold afternoon, the win-chill factor that has afflicted Carrow Road all season refused to blow away. Norwich have now won only one of their last dozen home games and Efan Ekoku's second-half equaliser was only their eleventh goal in front of their own supporters in the League.

No team in England has been less prolific. Their first-half performance was particularly disappointing, the precision of their passing game and their patience deserting them.

Their subsequent improvement perhaps merited a draw, although George Graham, the Arsenal manager disagreed. "I was delighted with the way we responded after that mid-week defeat," he said. "I thought we deserved to win." He also dismissed speculation that a fee had been agreed for the transfer of Alan Smith to Wolverhampton Wanderers.

With Wright injured, Smith will be needed and he paid a crucial part in Arsenal's goal. The players Graham fielded yesterday have managed only 17 between them in the League this season, the same as Chris Sutton, the Norwich striker, has managed on his own.

The first half had seen Norwich at their most infuriatingly ineffective as Arsenal, after a predictably hesitant start, gradually imposed themselves. Without Wright, they are often a powderpuff outfit — they have won only six of the 24 games in which he has not taken part while he has been at the club. But they deserved the lead given them by Campbell's 34th minute goal.

Beforehand the frozen crowd had been treated to 30 minutes of tedium and one moment of genius. The instigator was Sutton, whose turn after Goss had laid the ball forward left Bould floundering. Spotting Seaman, perhaps two yards too far forward, Sutton unleashed a 25-yard shot that rose and curled away from the goalkeeper towards the top corner.

But, although Seaman may be notoriously fallible at free kicks, he remains one of the country's outstanding shot stoppers. Twisting in mid-air and stretching his left hand up he pushed the ball onto the crossbar.

Had the opportunities that fell to Ekoku gone Sutton's way, Norwich might still have prospered. Sutton's striking partner was having a dreadful time, his lack of control ruining the few promising moments Norwich managed to create, and with Arsenal pushing forward with increasing confidence, it was no surprise when they took the lead.

Parlour won a corner on the right, when his shot was blocked by Polston. The corner was laid back to Dixon, a cross floated beyond the far post, and there Smith rose above Polston to head back across goal and allow Campbell the simplest of finishes.

Twice in the opening stages of the second half Norwich defenders came within inches of putting through their own goal. But, when they moved forward, Norwich now foundthe room denied them earlier, and before the hour they were level.

Eadie, a half-time substitute, had already shot over when well-placed when Norwich reverted to Route One. Gunn's long clearance found Sutton rising above Adams to flick on an Ekoku, rediscovering his poise at last, edged the ball away from Bould to beat Seaman with a fine shot from 18 yards.

NORWICH CITY (4-4-2): B Gunn — I Culverhouse, J Polston, R Newman, C Woodthorpe (Sub: D Eadie, 45 mins), J Goss, I Crook, G Megson (sub: L Power, 74), M Bowen, E Ekoku, C Sutton.
ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman, L Dixon, A Adams, S Bould, N Winterburn, R Parlour, J Jensen, P Merson, P Davis, K Campbell, A Smith.
Referee: R Dilkes.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

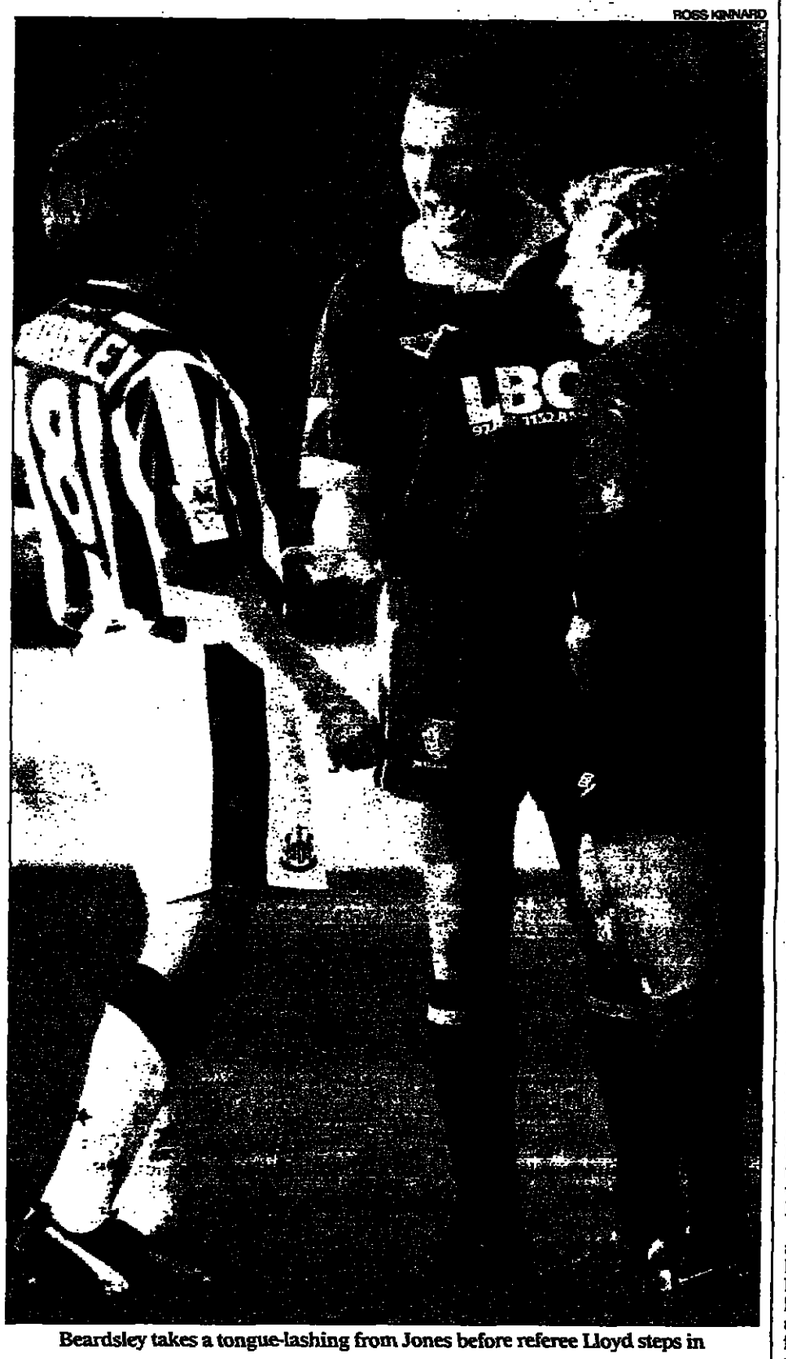
		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Manchester Utd	28	67	+32	DDWWW
2	Blackburn	27	57	+21	WWWWW
3	Arsenal	28	47	+17	WDDDD
4	Newcastle	27	45	+22	WWWLL
5	Liverpool	27	44	+12	WDWWD
6	Aston Villa	27	44	+9	LWDWW
7	Sheffield Wed	28	43	+15	WWLWW
8	Leeds	27	43	+10	DDDLL
9	Norwich	27	41	+10	LDDDD
10	QPR	27	39	+6	LDLWL
11	Wimbledon	27	36	-7	LWDLW
12	West Ham	28	36	-10	WDLDD
13	Coventry	28	35	-4	LLWLD
14	Ipswich	28	33	-7	DDLLD
15	Everton	29	32	-8	LWLWD
16	Tottenham	29	30	-3	LLLLL
17	Chelsea	27	26	-10	WDDLL
18	Oldham	28	26	-23	LLDWW
19	Manchester City	27	25	-10	LDLWD
20	Southampton	27	24	-12	DLWWL
21	Sheffield Utd	28	23	-20	WDLLD
22	Swindon	29	22	-36	DLWWL

Weekly change | Up | Stayed the same | Down

Keegan granted no respite

Oliver Holt sees a bad week for Newcastle end with a 4-2 defeat by a Wimbledon team which plays to its strengths

ROSS KINNARD


Beardsley takes a tongue-lashing from Jones before referee Lloyd steps in

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a team in search of solace should avoid a visit to Wimbledon where they sniff out psychological frailty like a hound scenting blood, then tear their victims apart with uninhibited ferocity.

Newcastle United, their morale plunging after the mid-week FA Cup defeat by Luton Town, their misery compounded by the disciplinary fall out from an unsanctioned visit by three of their players to a Bournemouth wine bar, fitted the profile perfectly. Vinnie, Fash and the rest of the Crazy Gang took their cue.

They set about their task with calm efficiency but when Newcastle buckled after the first prod, the manner of the destruction became more extravagant. Jones mocked, allowing himself the futile luxury of attempting clever tricks with the ball, Fashanu milked the unexpected occurrence of being fouled by Beardsley.

They still display all the antics of an alehouse team, the exaggerated protests to the referee, the elaborate male bonding orchestrated by Fashanu, Jones' reckless challenges and vaudeville clearances.

That is what must make them so intimidating. They play with all the raw passion and undiluted aggression of a Sunday park team and that is still their strength, the thing that makes them stand out. But there were no beer bellies at Selhurst Park, no legs flagging because of a heavy night the day before. Wimbledon are fit and skilful.

On Saturday, they did not just out-fight Kevin Keegan's team, they outplayed them and despite the protestations of their manager, Joe Kinnear, that the only way to stop Eric Cantona in the FA Cup tie against Manchester United next Sunday will be to tie him up and gag him, they present a serious threat to United's pursuit of the treble.

Fashanu scored the goal that killed Newcastle off, finishing a fine move that culminated in a superb cross from Fear by nodding the ball down and firmly past Hooper to make the score 3-1.

The visitors, lacking a target for their neat approach work because of the absence of the injured Andy Cole, looked doomed from the moment Robbie Earle pounced on Hooper's weak punch and headed it back past him to put Wimbledon ahead in the ninth minute. Holdsworth, Wimbledon's best player, had two close-range efforts saved by the goalkeeper's legs before Blissett scurried in between the hapless centre backs to direct Barton's cross inside Hooper's left-hand post.

Venison, stripped of the captaincy because of his part in the drinking incident, and Howey, another of the miscreants, seemed unable to cope with the incursions of the Wimbledon front three and although Beardsley, the new captain, dragged them back into the game with a penalty after Beresford had been brought down by Jones, the back four left Fashanu unmarked for Wimbledon's third.

Howey, under pressure from the entrepreneurial centre forward, scooped the ball away from Hooper and straight to Holdsworth who side-footed it into the empty net for Wimbledon's fourth in the 62nd minute. Fox, making his debut after a £2.5 million move from Norwich City, faded after a bright start and it was left to Beardsley to score a consolation goal two minutes from the end with another sweetly struck penalty. Fashanu had already departed. "He was tired of scoring goals," Kinnear said, "so we thought we would give him a rest. He is on so much each time he scores, I thought I'd take him off and save us a few pounds."

WIMBLEDON (4-3-3): H Segers — W Barton, S Fitzgerald, J Scales, G Elkins — V Jones, R Earle, P Fear — J Fashanu (sub: A Clarke, 74min), D Holdsworth, G Blissett.
NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-3-3): M Hooper — S Watson, B Venison, S Howey, J Beresford — L Clark, S Sellars, R Elliott — R Fox, R Lee (sub: A Mathie, 69), P Beardsley.
Referee: J Lloyd.

County step out of Forest's shadow

Notts County.....2
Nottingham Forest.....1

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

NOTTS County missed out on wicked Wednesday. As the Davids in the FA Cup unleashed their slingshot and caught the Goliaths fairly and squarely on the forehead, County were succumbing to Lee Chapman's 118th minute winner away to West Ham United. So nearly did they join Bolton Wanderers, Luton Town and Oxford United in a fifth round shorn of some of the FA Carling Premiership's best teams.

An opportunity to share in national adulation was wasted. Not to worry: Saturday provided adequate compensation for the oldest club in the country, born 1862. Victory over Nottingham Forest, an abrupt end to their rivals' 13 match unbeaten run in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division and temporary euphoria in the latest bout of Trent warfare.

Mick Walker, the County manager, glowed with satisfaction at a job well done yet stopped short of a good old fashioned gloat. "We've always been the underdog in this city but I don't feel any hatred towards Forest," he said. "I don't take any pleasure in anyone failing. I just desperately want us to do well."

County deserved their moment. Since flirting with the top flight in the early Eighties, they have sulked in the shadows of Brian Clough's red-and-white army from across the river. Even with Ol' Big 'Ead now tending a garden rather than players, Frank Clark, his successor, is rebuilding towards Premiership respectability again.

Before the rude interruption on Saturday, Forest had risen from nineteenth place to third in four months of stealthy progress. "It is disappointing our run should come to an end," Clark said. "The trick is now not to sit around moping about it. I'm still confident about promotion."

County's thirst for work, which earned them four of five bookings, was complemented by the still measured approach of the wandering Peter Reid, 37, so prematurely discarded during the self destruction of Manchester City. "He can't run, can barely breathe, his legs have gone all soft and he can't kick a ball more than ten yards," Walker said. "Yet look what he does. He calms everyone down. It's just what we needed here."

McSwegan twisted Chettle and Cooper every which way before firing County in front early in the second half. Phillips equalised in the 85th minute but, seconds later, Palmer nodded in Draper's retaken free kick for a rare event — a league goal, his eleventh in 15 seasons.

County continued to dream of a play-off berth and success in the Anglo-Italian Cup. Forest chase the loftier prize of a Premiership badge. Nottinghamshire supremacy shifted for 90 minutes only.

NOTTS COUNTY (4-4-2): S Cherry — C Palmer, C Foster, P Turner, M Johnson, P Devan, P Reid, M Draper, F Sheridan (Sub: A Legg, 45 mins), G McSwegan (Sub: M Dykstra 90 mins), G Lund
NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-5-1): M Crossley, D Lyttle, C Cooper, S Chettle, S Pearce, S Stone (Sub: G Bull 79 mins), L Bohinen, D Phillips, S Glenn, R Black, L Glover
Referee: P Don.

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Oldham set for another escape act

Oldham Athletic 2
Chelsea 1

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

EARLIER than the first cuckoo, more redolent than the smell of linseed oil on cricket bat, Oldham Athletic have responded to the annual threat of relegation by winning matches. You can almost set your clock by it. It might as well be spring.

This was a frantic, scrappy game and Oldham know how to scrap. Chelsea will have to learn. They began more comfortably but the corporate impression they left in defeat, which leaves them level on points with their conquerors, was of a fractious side who sought to compensate for a lack of height with excessive muscle. A point would have flattered them.

The abiding memory of the afternoon is of one Oldham player after another finding his path towards goal obstructed by a strategically placed, and subsequently apologetic, opponent. If people find it odd that a team managed by Glenn Hoddle can play this way, others might point out that even lovely, charming Swindon Town were not shy of kicking like mules last season when it suited them.

There is talent in Hoddle's side. Burley looks a good mover with the ball, Stein is floating along on the bubble his goals have blown and Spencer has his moments when he is not niggling defenders. The fact is, they are still fighting to avoid the drop and others are more practised at it.

Should he leave Boundary Park, and that eventuality recedes with each season he stays, Joe Royle could make a mint offering his services as a "relegation consultant". When they were losing games in December and January, Oldham looked a hopeless case. Now they are unbeaten in five games and resemble a team that has rediscovered a common purpose, that of survival.

In desperate times experience is essential and Oldham, unlike Chelsea, are old hands in this situation. From the stream of crosses Holden provided, Jobson and Sharp headed the goals which won the match either side of Spencer's equaliser. To emphasise the point Sharp's winner, ten minutes from time, came when McCarthy redirected


Holden: entertained

the centre with a header of his own. So long as Holden, who gave Clarke a torrid time, supplies that kind of service, Oldham's strikers will not lack opportunity.

Less talented players than Holden have gone further in the game by being more single-minded. He is that rare species, the rounded footballer who does not take himself too seriously. He even blew kisses at the Chelsea supporters.

For their spirit Oldham deserved to win. Unfortunately spirit alone is never enough and they needed two grand saves by Hallworth from Stein and Spencer, five minutes from time, to achieve it.

As for Chelsea, they should remember the words of another old song. Spring can really hang you up the most.

OLDHAM ATHLETIC (4-3-3): J Hallworth — C Makin, C Fleming, R Jobson, N Pointon — N McDonald (sub: D Beckford, 68mm), M Milligan, P Bernard — S McCarthy (sub: T Pedersen 82mm), G Sharp, R Holden.
CHELSEA (4-4-2): D Kharine — S Clarke, E Johnsen, F Sinclair, A Myers — C Burley, E Newton, D Barnard (sub: D Hopkin 69), G Peacock — M Stein, J Spencer.
Referee: A Gunn.

Gascoigne signals his intent to Venables

FROM ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT IN ROME

THERE are few players who could, or would want to, steal the thunder of a colleague who scores a hat-trick. Paul Gascoigne is the exception.

Yesterday, a day as clear as crystal in the Olimipico Stadium in Rome, Gascoigne's colleague, Peppe Signori, scored three consummate goals, but Gascoigne, both master and clown, treated him almost as a warm-up act before milking the applause for himself, scoring the final goal, and seeking out Terry Venables, the new England coach, in the crowd.

It was an afternoon of theatre and deception. Gascoigne occupied the centre circle for his strutting, strolling first-half movements, scarcely hinting at the full powers of his game, and not really telling Venables or anybody else whether he is yet as fully fit as Dino Zoff, the Lazio manager, insists he is.

Yet, even in this foreplay, which the Italian crowds accept with extraordinary patience, you could say of Gascoigne that he is the one Englishman able to look unflustered in a game of such high technical cat-and-mouse. Moreover, the Lazio team defers to him, knowing that he lies for the most part in deep repose, yet waiting for him to initiate their thrusts.

Hardly waiting in that sense was Signori. He began his goalscoring with a typical penalty, taking barely two paces back and then making a deadly strike with the left foot that deceived Fiori.

Signori was then denied a second goal when the goalkeeper turned his shot on to the bar. Fuser, unable to match his running power with accurate shooting, missed two chances, and Gascoigne, bellyflopping on to the turf, put a header from ten yards just wide.



Gascoigne: centre stage

However, out of a dull first half came the first flickerings of Gascoigne's ambition, his exceptional control, and, at last, his athleticism. Shaking off the lethargy, he ran boldly, hypnotically down the left, shrugging off Sanna, who had been assigned to mark him like a second skin.

Signori scored again with a free kick from 30 yards that exploded through the clear air with force quite belying this striker's size-five left boot. Gascoigne, even then, almost usurped the scorer. He ran to the dugout, threw himself at Zoff and, for good measure, kicked Maurizio Manzini, the team general manager, in the backside.

The Italians simply roll their eyes and shrug at "their" Gazza. "He's mad, sometimes bad, but we forgive him for his flair and his special qualities," the only slightly wounded Manzini said. Gascoigne saved his best moment until two minutes from time. He had waited for Signori to head his thirteenth goal in 12 matches this season; he had been booked for the sixth time in his own chequered season, though this time for nothing more than making a derisory gesture when Sanna was shown the yellow card for fouling him.

Taking a free kick towards the left side of the penalty area, Gascoigne produced the startling ability he possesses to impart swerve on the ball, surprising Fiori with the lateness with which his right-foot kick dipped high inside the far post.

Gascoigne swaggered towards the touchline, stood absolutely statuesque, a Eubank of the playing field. And then he turned, gave the thumbs-up sign with both hands to Venables.

Almost needlessly, a team official came out from the dressing-room to say: "Your man is very, very happy — happy because he played a good game, and he scored so that Mr Venables could see he is back to his best." Best? At the pace he was allowed yesterday, nobody can be sure. Yet an entertainer is entitled to gauge his performance to the pace of life around him, and entertainer is certainly the correct word.

LAZIO (3-5-2): L Marchegiani — P Negro (sub: M Bonomi, 80min), R Cravero, R Bacci — D Fuser, R Di Matteo, P Gascoigne, A Winter, G Favalli — A Boksic (sub: P Casiraghi, 84), G Signori.
CAGLIARI (3-5-2): V Fiori — M Villa, A Firicano, F Bellucci — G Pancaro, D Marcolin, M Sanna, J Herrera, V Pusceddu — L Oliveira, D Valdes.
Referee: L Baldas.

DOUG MARKE



King, the Mansfield manager, directs operations from the bench as his side gets the better of Wycombe Wanderers

King for a day at Field Mill



Andrew Longmore on a 3-0 defeat of Wycombe Wanderers that left the Mansfield manager overjoyed

SITTING back in his spartan office, cigar in one hand, can of beer in the other, Andy King was trying to retain a sense of perspective about Mansfield Town and failing spectacularly. On these days, on days when you thrash the team lying second in the league and do it with such style the chairman offers you a cigar, even a fledgling manager like King knows that the moment should be enjoyed to the full. By the end of the evening, anything would be possible.

"Unequalled," he beamed. "To watch your side do what you've been telling them to do, to see them play with passion, pace and commitment. It was victory with quality and it's all yours. Better than being a player." Better even, he thought, than being chaired off Goodison Park as Everton's goalscoring hero in victory over Liverpool.

There have been plenty of inquests in the same office over the past three months, so triumph, albeit the relatively minor triumph of a 3-0 win over Wycombe Wanderers in the Endsleigh Insurance League third division, was long overdue, the first shot of the drug called confidence which managers need just as much as players, a brief glimpse of daylight in a dark corridor.

Since he left the safety of the commercial manager's office at Luton, the club where he started his playing career, for the tightrope of league management, King, 37, has known failure well, but barely been on nodding terms with success. Under his guidance, Mansfield have plummeted from seventh to seventeenth in three months, prompting plenty of wise old tongues to wag about good players not making the best managers.

King was a very good player, a fine passer of the ball, but he just missed out on the glory years at Everton and never earned the international recognition his talent deserved. He still searches for the Everton result first and admits that his ambition is to return to Goodison as manager after Mansfield have leapt up the divisions and King's stock is high.

If enthusiasm were the prime requirement, he would be halfway there already. King feels his football, perhaps too deeply for a manager. The best managers blame their players when things go wrong and take the credit when they go right. King accepts both.

"As a player, you only had to worry about yourself. If you'd had a good game and the team had lost, it was on the bus and "Who's for a game of cards?". If you lose as a manager, it's your fault. You pick the team, you decide the tactics." He will learn. His opposite number, Martin O'Neill, the manager of Wycombe, knew deep down he had made mistakes but threw the onus of a dismal defeat onto his players. "We had no desire, no commitment, no heart."

Had it not been for a longstanding connection with the Haslam family, King's vivacity and nous might have been lost to football for good. Despite his credentials, he could not find a job, so he set up his own promotions company and resigned himself to a life on the fringes of the game, organising after-dinner speakers and celebrity days, before becoming commercial manager at Luton. "I would have done anything. Made the tea, been a coach driver. No one offered." Until Keith Haslam, son of Harry and new owner of Mansfield Town, called up last November. "It took me about ten seconds to say 'Yes'," King said.

On Saturday, for once, everything went right. Stuart Hadley, the Derby reserve striker he bought on Wednesday, played like Marco van Basten, scoring the second and providing the third for Wilkinson, the corner routine worked like clockwork for the opener, even if the wrong man, Fairclough, scored and the normally docile Field Mill crowd burst into song after a season-and-a-half's hibernation.

"Today showed I am capable of doing the job," King said. At least until next Saturday at Scunthorpe.

MANSFIELD TOWN (4-4-2): D Ward — P Fleming (sub: K Noteman, 50min), C Timons, K Gray, A Boothroyd — W Fairclough, S Parkin, P Holland, J Rees — S Hadley (sub: L Wilson, 85), S Wilkinson.
WYCOMBE WANDERERS (4-4-2): P Hyde — J Cousins, M Crossley, A Kerr, S Stapleton — D Carroll, S Brown (sub: S Thompson, 69), K Ryan, S Guppy — L Turnbull (sub: T Langford, 50), S Garner.
Referee: J Winter.

Overdrafts and balance sheets replace a boy's dreams of glory

The advancing years leave a man with an inferior set of dreams. Boyhood can happily be spent in back garden or public park rehearsing the great goals to be scored in adult life. With the passage of time, however, the silence of the telephone becomes ominous. The team you idolise never does get in touch.

At this point only shrunken ambitions remain. Instead of joining the club you support you will have to make do with purchasing it. This version of the sporting life is composed of balance sheets instead of score sheets. It may be a low-calorie vision but a surprising number of people find it nourishing. Such sentiment is probably feeding the attempt to take over Celtic.

Willie Haughey, a Glasgow businessman, heads a consortium which appears to be making progess in a bid which would see them buy 60 per cent of the club. According to rumours, three of the five key directors are already willing to follow suit and the others could buckle shortly. For the £3.6 million price Haughey would be the proud owner of a £5 million overdraft, some £7 million of current liabilities and a side which has been producing scruffy football for several seasons.

Reason is irrelevant. Haughey is probably beguiled by the thought of acquiring Celtic but he is not alone in falling prey to such enchantment. Since the 1980s seven of the twelve clubs in the premier division have gone through the convulsive process of changing hands. In many cases the euphoria of fresh ownership has proved fleeting.

Celtic need to be relieved of a board which has demonstrated an unwavering ability to plump for the wrong decision. Replacing them, however, will not by itself remove the risk of failure for the club. It is particularly awkward for newcomers to make lucid judgments.

Alex Fynn, co-author of *Out of Time*, a withering analysis of the modern game, argues that the passion for football which encourages businessmen to acquire clubs is also apt to bring about their ruin. "The club," he said, "often becomes a sort of adult toy. What is more, chairmen who are supporters feel that their decisions are, by definition, bound to be correct. They do not bother to consult anyone else."

In consequence some erratic courses of action are followed. Several famous names diversified beyond the reach of their own competence. Tottenham Hotspur's involvement, under Irving Scholar, in such activities as leisurewear and knitwear led to the fabric of the club unravelling. In Scotland, the previous owners of Hibernian invested in a failed chain of pubs in England and were left with a financial hangover.

There are concerns about Haughey because he has so far declined to outline his plans should he take over Celtic. No-one is yet sure that he has access to the resources which will allow him to deal with the debts. His bid, however, can only be welcome if it brings stability.

No chairman has true power until the overdraft is under control. Otherwise it will manage the club, dictating large sales and small purchases in the transfer market while also preventing any long-term planning from taking shape. Hibernianhave been making a gradual recovery since Tom Farmer bought them from the receivers in 1991 principally because he has insisted on prudence.

The Edinburgh club are free of any great debt and their secure, if modest, condition has allowed them to inch forward in Scottish football, making wise purchases of men such as Kevin McAllister, when circumstances permit. The helter-skelter approach of former times is gone but so, too, is the risk of oblivion.

Haughey has still to conclude negotiations with the present directors but there are also his own emotions to be dealt with. It would be unfortunate for Celtic if he seized control without having the means to right the sinking finances. A passionate concern for the club's welfare should lead Haughey to a calm assessment of its prospects in his hands.

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish commentary

WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

Coca-Cola Cup

Semi-final, first leg

MAN UTD (1) 1 Giggs 19 — SHEFF WED (0) 0. 43,294

FA Carling Premiership

A VILLA (1) 5 Saunders 31, 66 (pen), 84 (pen), Froggatt 55, Richardson 73 — SWINDON (0) 0. 26,637
EVERTON (0) 0 — IPSWICH (0) 0. 19,588
MAN CITY (0) 0 — WEST HAM (0) 0. 29,118
OLDHAM (1) 2 Jobson 17, Sharp 81 — CHELSEA (0) 1 Spencer 52. 12,022
SHEFF UTD (0) 0 — COVENTRY (0) 0. 15,394
TOTTENHAM (0) 0 — BLACKBURN (0) 2 Shearer 81, Gallacher 72. 30,236
WIMBLEDON (2) 4 Earle 9, Blissett 26, Fashanu 55, Holdsworth 63 — NEWCASTLE (0) 2 Beardsley 50, 90 (pens). 13,358

Yesterday

NORWICH (0) 1 Ekoku 57 — ARSENAL (1) 1 Campbell 33. 17,667

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Man Utd	28	9	5	0	26	10	11	2	1	31	15	67
2 Blackburn	27	9	3	2	21	9	8	3	2	20	11	57
3 Arsenal	28	7	5	2	18	9	5	6	3	14	8	47
4 Newcastle	27	7	3	3	25	10	6	3	5	22	19	45
5 Liverpool	27	8	4	2	26	16	4	4	5	20	18	44
6 A Villa	27	7	2	5	19	12	5	6	2	17	15	44
7 Sheff Wed	28	6	6	2	30	17	5	4	5	22	20	43
8 Leeds	27	8	3	1	24	13	3	7	5	15	16	43
9 Norwich	27	3	6	4	11	13	7	5	2	32	20	41
10 QPR	27	6	3	4	25	18	5	3	6	17	18	39
11 Wimbledon	27	6	4	4	20	17	3	5	5	11	21	36
12 West Ham	28	5	5	4	15	16	4	4	6	10	19	36
13 Coventry	28	5	6	3	12	11	3	5	6	16	21	35
14 Ipswich	28	4	6	4	12	15	3	6	5	11	15	33
15 Everton	29	6	2	7	20	22	3	3	8	12	18	32
16 Tottenham	29	3	5	7	20	23	4	4	6	16	18	30
17 Chelsea	27	5	4	4	14	12	1	4	9	12	24	26
18 Oldham	28	4	4	6	17	26	2	4	8	7	21	26
19 Man City	27	3	7	4	14	16	2	3	8	9	17	25
20 Soton	27	5	1	7	16	18	2	2	10	11	21	24
21 Sheff Utd	28	4	6	4	14	15	0	5	9	8	27	23
22 Swindon	29	4	4	7	17	29	0	6	8	14	38	22

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley 3 Buxton 1; Barrow 0 Boston 2, Bridlington Town 0 Chorley 1; Horwich 1 Frickley 1; Knowsley 2 Droylsden 0; Leek 3 Fleetwood 0, Marine 4 Emley 1; Matlock 1 Hyde 2; Whitley Bay 0 Gainsborough 1. First division: Ashton United 5 Farsley Celtic 2; Caernarfon 1 Warrington 0; Eastwood Town 0 Lancaster 2; Goole 2 Curzon Ashton 0; Great Harwood 1 Bamber Bridge 1; Harrogate 1 Congleton 1; Radcliffe Borough 0 Alfreton 0; Workington 1 Mossley 1, Worksop 0 Netherfield 1.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Afan Lido 1 Ebbw Vale 1; Connah's Quay 3 Llansantffraid 2; Conwy 0 Holywell 1; Cwmbran 2 Ton Pentre 1; Llanelli 1 Briton Ferry 3; Maesteg Park 0 Haverfordwest 0; Mold 1 Caersws 2; Newtown 2 Aberystwyth 1.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cornard 1 Wroxham 2; Felixstowe 3 Lowestoft 0, Gorleston 1 Sudbury 1; Halstead 2 Chatteris 0; Norwich United 1 Newmarket 3; Tiptree 4 Haverhill 0, Watton 0 Soham 3.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Fifth round: Bangor 1 Inter Cardiff 1; Barry 1 Flint 0.

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

BARNSLEY (1) 3 Rammell 20, Redfearn 59, Taggart 74 — STOKE (0) 0. 7,561
DERBY (1) 2 Pembridge 19, Gabbiadini 66 — BOLTON (0) 0. 16,698
GRIMSBY (0) 1 Mendonca 88 — C PALACE (1) 1 Southgate 27. 6,302
LEICESTER (1) 2 Coatsworth 7, Roberts 65 — LUTON (0) 1 James 66. 16,149
MILLWALL (1) 2 Verveer 39, 59 — BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 Saville 63. 9,438
NOTTS CO (0) 2 McSwegan 55, Palmer 86 — NOTTM FOR (0) 1 Phillips 84. 18,655
OXFORD UTD (0) 0 — CHARLTON (1) 4 Leaburn 25, 60, Pardew 71 (pen), Nelson 88. 7,126
PETERBORO (0) 1 Charlery 72 — MIDDLSBROUGH (0) 0. 7,020
SUNDERLAND (0) 0 — BRISTOL C (0) 0. 16,816
WATFORD (0) 0 — WEST BROM (1) 1 Burgess 35. 10,087
WOLVES (0) 0 — SOUTHEND (0) 1 Jones 56. 22,774

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 C Palace	29	10	3	1	27	12	8	3	6	23	22	54
2 Charlton	29	10	2	3	23	9	5	4	5	16	17	51
3 Millwall	29	10	4	1	26	11	4	4	6	15	22	50
4 Leicester	29	10	4	1	36	19	4	3	7	13	18	49
5 Tranmere	30	10	2	3	30	18	4	4	7	12	30	48
6 Notts For	28	6	6	2	22	14	7	2	5	24	18	47
7 Derby	29	11	0	3	32	17	3	4	8	14	25	46
8 Southend	30	7	3	5	25	19	6	1	8	20	23	43
9 Wolves	29	7	6	2	24	13	3	7	4	18	16	43
10 Stoke	29	9	2	3	22	14	3	5	7	16	29	43
11 Bolton	30	7	5	2	24	15	4	4	8	15	20	42
12 Bristol C	30	7	4	4	19	15	4	5	6	13	18	42
13 Notts Co	29	10	1	3	26	16	2	3	10	14	32	40
14 Portsmouth	29	6	5	3	17	12	3	6	6	15	25	38
15 Sunderland	29	9	2	4	21	13	2	3	9	9	23	38
16 Middlesbro	28	6	5	3	22	11	3	5	6	16	20	37
17 Luton	28	8	0	5	23	14	2	5	8	13	22	35
18 Grimsby	29	3	10	1	17	11	4	4	7	18	22	35
19 West Brom	30	6	6	3	27	20	2	3	10	15	27	33
20 Watford	30	6	4	5	26	24	2	3	10	17	34	31
21 Barnsley	29	4	3	8	16	21	4	4	6	21	24	31
22 Birmingham	30	6	6	4	17	17	1	2	11	13	28	29
23 Peterboro	28	5	6	4	18	12	1	3	9	9	22	27
24 Oxford Utd	30	5	3	7	19	27	1	5	9	13	30	26

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone 3 Chelmsford 0; Cambridge City 1 Dorchester 2; Hastings 1 Gloucester 0; Sittingbourne 5 Moor Green 2; Solihull 0 Trowbridge 2; Waterlooville 3 Nuneaton 2. Midland division: Bedworth 2 Yate 1; Bilston 2 Redditch 2; Clevedon 0 Leicester United 0; Dudley 2 VS Rugby 0; Evesham 1 Rushden & Diamonds 4; RC Warwick 2 Bridgnorth 3; Stourbridge 3 Hinckley 1; Sutton Coldfield 3 Forest Green 3; Tamworth 1 Weston-super-Mare 2. Southern division: Baldock 1 Weymouth 1; Bury Town 0 Witney 1; Canterbury 1 Braintree 4; Erith & Belvedere 1 Poole 3; Gravesend & Northfleet 0 Buckingham 0; Havant 3 Ashford 3; Margate 4 Burnham 0, Salisbury City 4 Wealdstone 0; Sudbury 2 Fisher 93 0.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare 0 Lincoln United 1; Ashfield 3 Winterton Rangers 1; Brigg 3 Thackley 2; Denaby 1 Maltby MW 1, Eccleshill 0 Ossett Town 0; North Ferriby 4 Belper 0; Ossett Albion 2 Glasshoughton Welfare 3, Pontefract Colliery 1 Sheffield 1; Stocksbridge PS 1 Liversedge 0.

Second division

BARNET (0) 0 — PLYMOUTH (0) 0. 2,854
BRIGHTON (2) 3 Wilkins 12, Nogan 16, Codner 49 — HULL (0) 0. 8,251
BRISTOL R (0) 1 Stewart 85 — BRENTFORD (3) 4 Gayle 6, Allon 20, 24, 56. 5,685
BURNLEY (0) 2 Philliskirk 54, Francis 69 — CARDIFF (0) 0. 11,276
EXETER (1) 1 Ross 45 — ROTHERHAM (0) 1 Helliwell 61. 3,113
FULHAM (0) 1 Bedrossian 54 — BLACKPOOL (0) 0. 4,259
HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 McGuckin 19 — READING (0) 4 Lovell 57, 88, Taylor 63, Quinn 90. 2,218
L ORIENT (1) 2 Bogie 41, Carter 56 — BRADFORD (1) 1 Reid 8. 3,690
PORT VALE (0) 1 Foyle 50 — STOCKPORT (0) 1 Francis 89. 10,628
SWANSEA (1) 1 Bowen 39 — BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 Cotterill 48. 3,255
WREXHAM (2) 3 Jones 1, Watkin 9, Brammer 89 — HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 Bullock 55. 4,011
YORK (0) 2 Barnes 51, 89 — CAMBRIDGE (0) 0. 3,334

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Reading	30	11	3	1	30	11	7	4	4	30	20	61
2 Stockport	27	11	0	3	33	13	4	6	3	13	14	51
3 Plymouth	27	9	4	1	31	17	5	4	4	20	18	50
4 Burnley	29	12	1	2	34	13	3	4	7	15	21	50
5 Brentford	30	7	5	3	30	13	6	6	3	21	13	50
6 Bristol R	29	6	6	3	21	18	8	2	4	19	17	50
7 Port Vale	27	8	4	1	29	12	5	4	5	16	16	47
8 York	30	6	5	4	19	11	6	3	6	22	18	44
9 Hull	30	6	5	4	22	15	6	2	7	20	20	43
10 Bradford	29	8	3	4	23	14	4	4	6	16	23	43
11 L Orient	30	8	5	2	24	15	3	4	8	15	27	42
12 Cambridge	30	6	5	4	22	15	4	3	8	19	30	38
13 Blackpool	31	9	2	5	28	24	2	2	11	16	30	37
14 Bournemouth	27	5	4	5	17	16	4	6	3	15	14	37
15 Fulham	30	4	4	7	11	14	6	1	8	23	27	35
16 Wrexham	27	8	3	2	33	19	1	4	9	11	29	34
17 Brighton	29	5	6	4	21	18	3	4	7	12	25	34
18 Swansea	27	5	6	2	18	13	3	3	8	11	23	33
19 Huddersfield	28	4	5	4	14	17	4	4	7	16	20	33
20 Cardiff	28	6	4	3	26	16	1	6	8	15	27	31
21 Rotherham	27	5	3	5	21	20	2	5	7	14	23	29
22 Exeter	26	5	4	4	26	22	1	4	8	7	26	26
23 Hartlepool	30	4	2	8	14	22	1	4	11	10	35	21
24 Barnet	28	1	4	9	11	20	1	4	9	14	34	14

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford 2 Frome 2; Chippenham 0 Exmouth 2; Odd Down 1 Taunton 5; Saltash 2 Elmore 2; Tiverton 3 Mangotsfield 2.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Danes 2 Chertsey 1; Hamptonians 2 Tiffinians 2; Meadonians 0 Wilsonians 1; Glyn 4 Tenisonians 1.

Third division

BURY (0) 2 Stevens 46, Carter 89 — CARLISLE (0) 1 Reddish 75. 2,807
COLCHESTER (0) 0 — CHESTRFIELD (1) 2 Morris 6 58. 2,783
CREWE (2) 3 Tierney 15, Edwards 21, Naylor 61 — SCUNTHORPE (2) 3 Martin 3, Carmichael 19, Danzey 63. 3,507
DARLINGTON (1) 1 Pearson 14 — HEREFORD (2) 3 Pike 2, 76, Hall 8. 2,117
LINCOLN (0) 0 — WIGAN (0) 1 Lyons 78. 2,534
MANSFIELD (1) 3 Fairclough 27, Hadley 60, Wilkinson 68 — WYCOMBE (0) 0. 3,009
NORTHAMPTON (1) 3 Harmon 5, Fitzpatrick 46, Gilzean 71 — SCARBORO (2) 2 Whittington 34, Murray 38. 2,974
PRESTON (0) 0 — GILLINGHAM (0) 0. 8,167
SHREWSBURY (1) 1 Reeves 8 (og) — ROCHDALE (0) 1 Whitehall 55. 4,882
TORQUAY (1) 2 Foster 44, Buckle 90 (pen) — DONCASTER (0) 1 Holmes 64. 3,080
WALSALL (0) 1 Watkiss 55 — CHESTER (1) 1 Pugh 32 (pen). 4,602

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Crewe	27	10	3	1	32	18	6	4	3	25	21	55
2 Wycombe	27	8	2	2	22	13	5	6	4	23	25	47
3 Shrewsbury	26	6	5	2	19	13	7	3	3	22	16	47
4 Preston	26	8	4	2	32	17	4	4	4	23	23	44
5 Torquay	28	5	8	2	23	20	6	3	4	22	20	44
6 Chester	27	5	5	2	14	8	7	3	5	28	21	44
7 Walsall	28	8	4	5	22	17	5	4	3	12	13	44
8 Rochdale	26	8	3	2	28	10	3	5	5	16	16	41
9 Bury	28	8	3	2	27	13	4	2	9	14	26	41
10 Chesterfld	27	6	4	4	21	17	5	2	6	17	24	39
11 Scunthorpe	27	6	5	2	27	12	3	5	6	14	17	37
12 Colchester	27	7	3	5	24	23	3	2	7	18	28	35
13 Scarborough	28	5	1	8	16	20	5	4	5	18	20	35
14 Mansfield	29	7	1	6	20	19	2	7	6	14	23	35
15 Carlisle	28	3	4	6	19	19	5	5	5	15	12	33
16 Gillingham	27	6	5	3	18	15	2	4	7	12	20	33
17 Doncaster	29	6	3	5	18	18	3	3	9	11	24	33
18 Lincoln	26	5	3	6	18	21	3	4	5	18	22	31
19 Wigan	27	3	4	6	22	25	4	3	7	13	23	28
20 Darlington	28	5	4	6	21	22	1	5	7	11	23	27
21 Hereford	27	4	3	7	22	21	3	2	8	17	30	26
22 Northampton	27	3	5	4	15	16	1	2	12	12	34	19

AFA SENIOR CUPS: Middlesex: Old Aloysians 2 Civil Service 4. East Barnet OG 3 Old Ignatians 2. Surrey: South Bank Poly 2 Old Grammarians 1; Nat West 4 Old Carthusians 0. Essex: Old Chigwellians 4 Old Brentwoods 0; Old Fairlopians 0 Old Parkonians 1.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Mill Hill Village 2 Old Bealonians 0; Old Finchleians 0 Witan 4; St Marys College 1 Old Owens 1.

GM Vauxhall Conference

ALTRINCHAM (1) 1 Harris 38 — WITTON (1) 3 Harris 11 (og), Edey 58, Burke 66. 640
STALYBRIDGE (0) 1 Edwards 67 — NORTHWICH (0) 1 Adebola 56. 668

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Kidderminstr	25	9	3	2	20	8	4	2	5	16	16	44
2 Southport	26	6	7	1	19	13	5	3	4	18	16	43
3 Kettering	26	5	5	3	13	10	6	4	3	14	8	42
4 Bath	26	4	5	4	22	14	6	5	2	17	10	40
5 Woking	25	8	3	2	22	13	2	6	4	12	20	39
6 Dover	24	9	1	3	23	11	3	1	7	11	18	38
7 Runcorn	25	8	2	2	27	16	0	10	3	14	22	36
8 Welling	24	6	3	4	15	12	3	5	3	14	13	35
9 Merthyr	27	6	7	1	24	11	2	5	6	15	22	34
10 Stafford	26	7	5	3	25	16	1	5	5	11	19	34
11 Gateshead	24	6	4	2	16	10	3	3	6	12	21	34
12 Halifax	25	3	7	1	19	10	4	5	5	21	25	33
13 Bromsgrove	22	3	4	3	17	14	6	2	4	20	21	33
14 Telford	24	4	6	2	15	11	4	2	6	11	17	32
15 Slough	28	7	2	4	24	17	1	6	8	9	24	32
16 Macclesfld	24	5	4	4	20	15	4	0	7	12	23	31
17 Yeovil	25	5	2	5	17	14	2	5	6	15	25	28
18 Northwich	24	3	5	2	11	9	2	7	5	8	18	27
19 Dag & Red	21	5	3	1	20	10	1	5	6	7	17	26
20 Witton	28	3	5	6	14	18	3	3	8	9	17	26
21 Altrincham	24	3	3	6	12	17	2	2	8	7	16	20
22 Stalybridge	23	1	5	5	10	18	2	5	5	14	17	19

FA TROPHY: Second round: Cheltenham Town 1 Hednesford 0, Colwyn Bay 0 Southport 3; Dagenham and Redbridge 1 Woking 2; Gateshead 0 Gretna 0; Grantham 1 Bishop Auckland 2, Grays 1 Bromsgrove 2; Guiseley 3 Stafford 2; Kettering 2 Billingham Synthonia 2; Kingstonian 0 Merthyr 2; Morecambe 1 Slough 0; Runcorn 2 Telford 1, Spennymoor United 1 Halifax 2; Sutton United 6 Bath 1; Welling 1 Dover 3; Worcester 0 Macclesfield 0, Worthing 1 Enfield 1.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury 1 Hayes 0, Basingstoke 6 Wivenhoe 2; Carshalton 1 Wokingham 0; Dulwich 0 Chesham 2; Harrow 0 Bromley 0; St Albans 4 Molesey 1; Yeading 1 Hendon 1. First division: Abingdon 3 Wembley 3. Barking 0 Berkhamsted 0. Billericay 0 Boreham Wood 1; Chalfont St Peter 0 Ruislip Manor 2. Heybridge Swifts 2 Bognor Regis 0; Maidenhead 1 Bishops Stortford 1, Purfleet 1 Tooting & Mitcham 0; Uxbridge 0 Whyteleafe 0; Walton & Hersham 5 Leyton 2. Second division: Aldershot Town 1 Saffron Walden 0, Banstead Athletic 4 Chertsey 3; Collier Row 0 Rainham 2, Edgware 1 Newbury 3. Hampton 1 Tilbury 2. Hemel Hempstead 0 Barton 3; Hungerford 1 Metropolitan Police 4, Leatherhead 2 Egham 0; Lewes 1 Aveley 2: Thame 1 Witham 1. Third division: Bracknell 2 Tring 0: Clapton 1 Flackwell Heath 1, East Thurrock 2 Epsom & Ewell 4; Feltham & Hounslow 1 Cove 1; Harlow 4 Leighton 2; Hornchurch 3 Horsham 2; Kingsbury 1 Camberley 4; Northwood 2 Southall 1. Royston 1 Hertford 1

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Blyth Spartans 0 Northallerton 2, Brandon 1 Chester Le Street 1, Consett 0 Newcastle Blue Star 1; Durham City 4 Seaham Red Star 2; Guisborough 1 Stockton 1, Murton 1 Dunston FB 0; Shildon 4 Hebburn 1; Tow Law 4 Ferryhill Athletic 0

Scottish League

Premier division

ABERDEEN (1) 4 Paatelainen 43, 77, Shearer 74, Booth 78 — RAITH (0) 0. 10,800
DUNDEE UTD (1) 1 Brewster 18 — MOTHERWELL (2) 2 Bowman 39 (og), Van der Hoorn 45 (og). 6,573
HEARTS (0) 0 — CELTIC (1) 2 Nicholas 43 83. 14,049
KILMARNOCK (1) 1 Mitchell 43 — PARTICK (0) 2 Craig 46, Grant 75. 7,511
RANGERS (1) 2 Durie 37, Steven 81 — HIBERNIAN (0) 0. 43,265
ST JOHNSTONE (1) 1 Dodds 37 — DUNDEE (1) 1 Farningham 25. 5,517

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Rangers	30	8	3	4	29	18	7	7	1	24	12	40
2 Aberdeen	30	9	6	0	26	6	3	9	4	15	18	38
3 Motherwell	30	8	4	2	21	12	7	4	5	20	18	38
4 Hibernian	30	9	3	2	25	12	4	6	6	20	22	35
5 Celtic	30	6	7	2	17	10	4	6	5	18	16	33
6 Dundee Utd	30	4	8	3	17	14	4	7	4	15	15	31
7 Kilmarnock	30	4	8	4	12	14	4	5	5	12	16	29
8 Partick	30	6	5	3	16	11	3	5	8	18	31	28
9 St Johnstone	30	5	6	5	21	23	1	8	5	6	14	26
10 Hearts	30	5	6	5	16	17	1	7	6	6	15	25
11 Raith	30	2	8	5	14	22	2	5	8	15	30	21
12 Dundee	30	3	6	6	17	20	1	2	12	10	24	16

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards 1 Distillery 0. Ballymena 0 Linfield 1, Bangor 2 Crusaders 1; Carrick 2 Ballyclare 4; Cliftonville 1 Newry 1 Coleraine 0 Glenavon 2; Glentoran 3 Omagh Town 1, Portadown 4 Larne 0

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Bacup Borough 5 Glossop North End 2; Burscough 1 Chadderton 1. Clitheroe 0 Flixton 0; Darwen 3 Skelmersdale 1: Kidsgrove Athletic 4 Bradford Park Avenue 0; Newcastle Town 1 Maine Road (Man) 2, Penrith 1 Nantwich 0. Rossendale 2 Eastwood Hanley 1.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Norsemen 0 Winchmore Hill 1; West Wickham 2 Carshalton 0; Old Actonians 3 Midland 0, Old Esthameians 2 Crouch End Vampires 2; Southgate Olympic 1 Old Stationers 5; Alexandra Park 2 Broomfield 2; Poly 2 Old Bromleians 2, Old Latymerians 1 Ibis 0; Old Salesians 1 Old Westminster Cits 0, Brentham 1 Merton 0, Royal Bank 3 Reigate Priory 3, Bank 2 Old Lyonians 1

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Atalanta 1 AS Roma 1, Genoa 1 Torino 1; Juventus 5 Lecce 1, Lazio 4 Cagliari 0; AC Milan 1 Cremonese 0. Parma 2 Sampdoria 1, Piacenza 2 Inter Milan 1. Udinese 3 Naples 1.

FRENCH CUP: Second round: Sochaux 0 Marseilles 1, Beauvais 0 Montpellier 3; Auxerre 4 Sedan 2: Guingamp 2 Red Star 1; Sete 1 Libourne 0: Le Mans 0 Bordeaux 0 (7-8 pens); Laval 1 Lyons 1 (3-1 pens). Lorient 0 Nantes 2. Chatellerault 3 Metz 1. Avion 1 Paris St Germain 4, Pau 1 Charleville 1 (6-7 pens). Chateauroux 1 Racing '92 1 (1-4 pens).

First division

AIRDRIE (0) 0 — AYR (0) 0. 2,500
BRECHIN (0) 0 — FALKIRK (1) 2 Cadette 45, 46. 823
CLYDE (0) 0 — STIRLING (0) 0. 2,000
CLYDEBANK (0) 0 — ST MIRREN (0) 3 Bone 47, McIntyre 77, Hewitt 86. 2,009
DUNFERMLINE (2) 3 Petrie 6, Tod 29, 48 — DUMBARTON (0) 2 Gibson 54, Meechan 80. 3,821
MORTON (1) 2 Thomson 7, Anderson 90 — HAMILTON (1) 2 Baptie 21, McGill 81. 1,447

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Dunfermline	29	12	1	2	45	14	6	3	5	19	13	40
2 Falkirk	29	8	4	2	24	13	7	6	2	26	13	40
3 Airdrie	30	7	6	3	23	15	7	3	4	19	13	37
4 St Mirren	30	6	1	6	23	17	6	5	4	22	20	34
5 Hamilton	30	7	4	3	23	12	5	6	5	17	24	34
6 Clydebank	30	6	4	5	18	21	5	5	5	21	15	31
7 Ayr	30	4	5	5	14	18	6	5	5	16	17	30
8 Stirling	29	7	4	3	19	15	5	2	8	14	24	30
9 Dumbarton	30	4	5	6	20	22	5	3	7	19	20	26
10 Clyde	28	4	4	6	11	14	2	3	9	13	26	19
11 Morton	29	2	8	5	15	20	1	5	8	14	34	19
12 Brechin	30	4	2	10	12	27	1	2	11	8	28	14

Second division

ALBION (0) 0 — BERWICK (1) 2 Wilson 18, Young 89. 267
ALLOA (0) 1 Newbigging 75 (pen) — STENHOUSEMUIR (1) 2 Sludden 44 74. 856
ARBROATH (0) 0 — STRANRAER (0) 0. 560
COWDENBEATH (2) 3 Herd 15, Callaghan 17, Carr 82 — QUEEN'S PARK (1) 4 O'Neill 29, 47, McCormick 81, Graham 86. 241
MEADOWBANK (1) 4 Murray 45, 65, Little 60, Rutherford 81 — FORFAR (1) 2 Smith 18, Kopel 84. 235
MONTROSE (1) 2 Kennedy 45, Milne 85 — E STIRLING (1) 2 Conroy 14, Craig 87 (pen). 387
QUEEN OF STH (0) 0 — E FIFE (0) 0. 611

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Stranraer	26	10	1	2	27	12	6	5	2	16	10	38
2 Stenhsmuir	26	7	4	2	29	13	7	1	5	18	18	33
3 Meadowbank	26	6	6	1	26	16	5	3	5	19	19	31
4 Alloa	26	4	5	4	11	11	6	5	2	19	14	30
5 Berwick	26	5	5	3	24	17	5	4	4	21	16	29
6 Queen of S	26	6	1	6	28	16	5	4	4	19	18	27
7 E Fife	26	6	4	3	28	18	4	3	6	15	18	27
8 Forfar	26	4	4	5	17	18	5	3	5	19	18	25
9 Arbroath	26	4	5	4	20	23	5	1	7	14	24	24
10 Queen's Pk	26	7	3	3	21	17	2	3	8	15	36	24
11 E Stirling	26	4	2	7	17	23	2	7	3	18	19	23
12 Montrose	25	3	3	7	13	19	5	2	5	26	29	21
13 Cowdenbth	25	0	2	10	14	26	5	3	5	19	22	15
14 Albion	26	1	3	9	11	24	3	4	6	15	23	15

SPANISH LEAGUE: Deportivo Coruna 2 Sevilla 0; Athletic Bilbao 0 Rayo Vallecano 0, Lerida 1 Logrones 1. Racing Santander 2 Celta 1, Atletico Madrid 2 Sporting Gijon 0; Real Valladolid 0 Real Sociedad 0; Osasuna 3 Albacete 1, Real Zaragoza 6 Barcelona 3

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1½	2	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	2	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	3	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½

30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1½	2	3	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	2	1½	2	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½	2	1½	1½	2½	2

FORECAST: Possible jackpot with eight jackpot draws. Telephone claims required for 23½ and 24 points.

Leicester kept on course by Harris

Wasps 13
Leicester 15

By David Hands
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THEN there were two. With five weekends remaining of the Courage Clubs Championship, Bath and Leicester stretched away from the pack on Saturday, but if Leicester are to maintain their pursuit of the champions, they will have to place a more secure hand on the tiller than they did at Sudbury, where the result was in doubt until the final moment.

Scots everywhere will feel a sense of natural justice that Rob Andrew's difficult 42-metre penalty, into the chill wind that blustered down the field throughout, drifted wide to leave Leicester victors by four penalty goals and a dropped goal to a goal and two penalties. If Andrew was instrumental in the deciding score of the Calcutta Cup match a week earlier, here he was on the receiving end.

Wasps will feel only that they have seen enough of Jez Harris this season. When the clubs met in October, Harris kicked 18 points as Leicester inflicted a record league defeat, 38-6, on the north London side. The stand-off half contented himself with 15 in the return, including the dropped goal in the first minute of injury time which snatched the lead back when Wasps looked to be in control.

It is hard to remove the smile from Harris's face this season. He has averaged 20 points a game in his last eight appearances, he is the first division's leading points scorer and his thirteenth dropped goal equalled the Leicester record established by Les Cusworth in 1980. He has also pulled on an England shirt for the first time, albeit at emerging players level.

If there were any justice in sport, Wasps would have avenged that autumn defeat. Apart from Phil Hopley's second-half try, they were over the Leicester line on three occasions but could not touch down, and Andrew missed five of his seven penalty attempts.

"Playing with the wind [in the first half], you have to get scores on the board," Rob Smith, their philosophical coach, said. Turning round only 3-0 ahead, therefore, was a disappointment, yet Smith was pleased with the overall performance which, time and again, saw Wasps drive through the first line of Leicester defenders. The experiment of playing Greenwood at lock, where he spent much of his time during his career with Nottingham, paid handsome dividends, and although Wasps may not be kings this season, they could yet be kingmakers if they can pose similar problems for Bath on March 12.

But neither side could finish what was so well begun. Ultimately, this was a frustrating game because so much constructive effort was wasted, never more so than when Andrew cut back to find Kinsey ploughing a lone furrow straight for the Leicester line. The big lock had only to drive hard and low and a try seemed a formality, yet he maintained such an upright position that the defence was able to get underneath him and prevent the score.

Under the scrutiny of two national coaches, Dick Best, of England, and Gerry Murphy, of Ireland, who was watching Boyle, the Leicester centre, the technical merit was considerable, even if it was not matched by the artistic impression. Ian Smith, the Leicester coach, made the valid point that playing between international commitments is not easy and wondered what state his players would be in by the end of March, after six successive weekends of international, cup and league matches.

"There will be a lot of pressure in all league games and the side that holds its nerve the longest will come out on top," Smith said. That appears to be Harris's forte just now. Having missed two penalties and an attempted dropped goal into the wind, he missed nothing in the second half and even when Andrew's second penalty gave Wasps their 13-12 lead and the chance to play out time, his colleagues earned Harris a final chance.

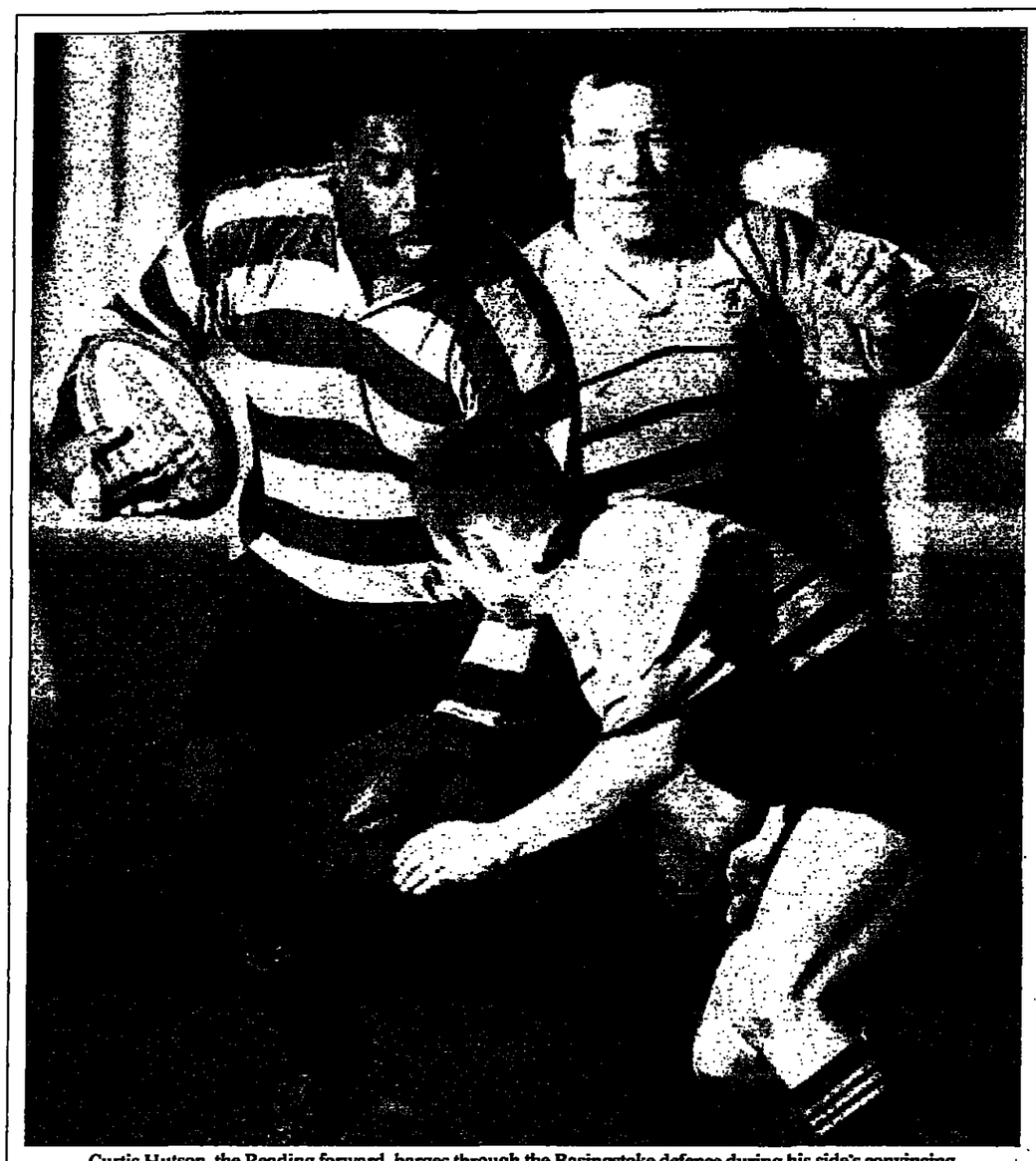
Back broke clear of a rolling maul, Potter made inroads into the defence and when Leicester won the ruck, the stand-off sent a low dropped goal scudding down the breeze. At least his tiller hand is steady.

SCORERS: Wasps: Try: P Hopley Conversion: Andrew Penalty goals: Andrew (2). Leicester: Penalty goals: Harris (4) Dropped goal: Harris

WASPS: H Davies; P Hopley, G Childs, D Hopley, S Hunter; R Andrew, S Bates, G Holmes, K Dunn, J Probyn, L Dallaglio, R Kinsey, M Greenwood, M White, D Ryan

LEICESTER: W Killford, T Underwood, L Boyle, S Potter, R Underwood; J Harris, A Kardooni; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, J Wells, M Johnson, M Poole, N Back, C Tarbuck

Referee: C Hamson (East Midlands)



Curtis Hutson, the Reading forward, barges through the Basingstoke defence during his side's convincing victory in the Courage Clubs Championship fifth division match on Saturday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Reading power towards goal



John Hopkins visits a little club with high ideals and a lofty aim to rise in rugby union's hierarchy

Reading is a small club with a big ambition. That ambition is to become the best club in England between Bath and London and they are rolling towards it, powered by a massive front five and a Dead-Eye Dick of a goalkicking full back.

Victory over their local rivals, Basingstoke, by 32-3 was their eighth from nine games in the Courage Clubs Championship this season. It was a welcome return to winning ways after a one-point defeat by Weston-super-Mare two weeks ago.

That defeat stuck in their craw much as Scotland's did last weekend because it came, as Scotland's did, after a penalty kick in injury time. It was Reading's first defeat in 19 league games stretching back to October 1992.

Reading is a model of a middle-ranking rugby club. The clubhouse has three bars, two squash courts, a function room and a weights room. The small stand, barely 25 yards long and fitted with red, wooden planks on which to sit, has RRFC painted in large white letters on the back wall. Beyond it, reached by a muddy path behind the goal-posts at one end of the ground, is a wasteland for car parking. Entry is £3 and includes an impressively bulky, 36-page programme.

"To say that our aim would be to top division one would be nonsense," Jeff Owen, the chairman of rugby, said. "But to be the best between London and Bath is realistic. There are only two sides in that area that we don't play or have not beaten — Havant and Bath."

Money is never far removed from the mind of a thrusting club in search of promotion. At Holme Park, gate money is small, local sponsorship strong. "No one gets paid," Peter Walker, the chairman, said. "We believe in that. If Leicester won't do it, why should we?"

Reading is one of the few clubs in the fifth division to have a paid coaching director. Mike Tewkesbury is part-time, soon to be full-time. For him, building the club involves the community. Links have been established with Reading FC. "At half-time they encourage supporters who don't want to travel to away games to come and watch us," Tewkesbury said. "We believe we are the strongest club in the area and we have a duty to fulfil. The other clubs give us their players, we have to provide them with the expertise. We don't pay and we don't poach."

Two unconverted pushover tries credited to Ian McGeever, the No 8, a try by David Wells, the scrum half, and five penalties and a conversion by the full back, Phil Belshaw, took Reading's points total to 270 this year. While scoring an average of nearly 40 points a game, they have conceded the niggardly total of 38.

Belshaw, 24, is one of the most successful goalkickers in the country. His total of 17 points against Basingstoke was a typical afternoon's work. For five weeks he has used a paper laminate tee that helps him get the ball off the ground. It helped him on Saturday and, clearly, what helps him helps Reading, too.

SCORERS: Reading: Tries: McGeever (2) Wells. Conversion: Belshaw. Penalty goals: Belshaw (5). Basingstoke: Penalty goal: Rowledge.

READING: P Belshaw; M Richmond, J Dixon, G Way, R Hutson; S Rogers, D Wells; P Guttenidge, K Jones, I Turrell, R Clark, C Hutson, D Pratt, I Armstrong; I McGeever.

BASINGSTOKE: R Rowledge; G Whitecross, M John, D Rowledge, S Denning; H Rushin, P Goodall, P Bridgeman, A Sommers, J Ford, P Hawkins, P Polson, G Hurst, M Culley, A Hill.

Referee: A Pearce (Devon).

Reliable Callard takes heavy toll of Gloucester's indiscretions

Gloucester 6
Bath 16

By Gerald Davies

THIS match was no more than could be expected of West Country neighbours. The tradition remains unchanged. It was tough, and played before a large, vociferous and partisan crowd. The Severn-siders may not care for the comparison, but they are much like a Welsh crowd. When matters go against them on the field they like nothing better than to get at the referee. It is not their own team that is at fault but rather the man holding the whistle: "Come up here to the stand, you might see better," was the kindest comment all afternoon.

With the game on Saturday played almost entirely among the forwards and little ventured elsewhere, the referee was pushed into a more prominent role than if a different style had prevailed. Played so close, with bodies hurling hither and thither and much pushing and shoving — a rolling maul here, a forward drive there — the referee's task was not easy. Technical infringements abounded, with many penalties incurred. Throughout it all Mr Pearson smiled. In difficult circumstances, he did well.

Gloucester eventually found they were at the receiving end of the afternoon's critical decisions, which ultimately allowed Callard to kick Bath to victory. The pattern of the match dictated it would be determined by penalties. Neither team looked confident in chancing its arm in the quest for tries, both seemed too nervous for that.

With another away victory, by a goal and three penalty goals to two penalties, Bath entered the final stages of the Courage Clubs Championship knowing that the clubs in immediate pursuit — Leicester, Wasps and Harlequins — must visit the Recreation Ground, where the home team has yet to lose.

Gloucester did briefly hold the lead after Cummins dropped a fifth-minute goal. Bath's response was glorious, immediate and fluent. Gloucester had barely had time to relish their lead when Catt sent a long pass to Swift. Living up to his name, Swift made ground quickly on the wing, veered inside to find Robinson in support and a quick transfer to Ojomoh left the No 8 to score under the posts. Callard converted.

This was slick. But, regrettably, nothing remotely similar occurred again. The lineout was erratic. West, for the home team, and Redman, for Bath, might have had the first touch but this did not guarantee the ball returned on their side. Only Hall, who made some crucial two-handed catches, seemed authoritative. Callard, who threw a wobbly or two whenever the ball was kicked to him, was on target with his goal-kicking, however, a 40-metre penalty extending Bath's lead before half-time.

Two replacements, Morgan for Morris in the centre, Kearsey for Hawker at hooker, might have disrupted Gloucester's hopes but they still managed to give a thrusting account of themselves in the second half. After Smith had reduced the deficit with a penalty the home team enjoyed their best period, but no points came their way. Bath regrouped to enter Gloucester's half and were awarded the penalties which made the crowd restive and left the reliable boot of Callard to clinch victory.



Callard: on target

SCORERS: Gloucester: Drop goal: Cummins. Penalty: T Smith. Bath: Try: Ojomoh. Conversion: Callard. Penalties: Callard (3)

GLOUCESTER: T Smith; P Holford, S Morris, B Maslen, M Nicholson, D Cummins, B Fenley; A Windo, J Hawker, A Deacon, P Glanville, S Devereux, R West, I Smith, D Sims. Morris replaced by I Morgan (14min); Hawker replaced by D Kearsey (10).

BATH: J Callard; A Swift, P De Glanville, M Catt, A Adebayo; S Barnes, I Sanders; D Hilton, G Dawe, V Ubogu, A Robinson, N Redman, A Reed, J Hall, S Ojomoh

Referee: J Pearson (RFU).

Sale, in second place in the second division, warmed up for their Pilkington Cup quarter-final at Harlequins on February 26 by swamping Otley 88-9. Individually, Simon Verbikas set a national league record of five tries in a match, while the scoreline set new standards for the most points by one side, the highest aggregate tally and the biggest margin. Alex Snow, the Harlequins lock, was sent off for punching during the 12-6 win over Newcastle Gosforth and will miss the cup-tie.

Irish losing grip on senior status

Orrell 24
London Irish 3

By Christopher Irvine

IN EXILING the Exiles, or at least cutting off London Irish from the mainstream of the Courage Clubs Championship first division, Orrell removed the hangman's noose from their own necks with a display that went back to belts-and-braces basics.

So transparently feeble was the opposition — the Irish tackling was a mix of the inept and the just plain bad — that it perhaps exaggerated the effect, but Orrell did on Saturday what used to come naturally to them: forwards incessantly driving, with strong backs running on, at close range, to a constant flow of recycled possession. They were 17 points clear after 26 minutes and well on their way to avenging their defeat at Sunbury earlier in the season.

The tactics worked splendidly for half the match. But a disappointing second period merely underlined that when Orrell try to answer their critics by attempting a more expansive style they make far less headway, even against a defence as ill-disciplined as that of the Irish.

The visitors possessed easily the best lineout jumper and touch-kicker, yet for all the good work of the 6ft 7in Domoni and the way Staples pushed Orrell back with his unerring boot, they were overwhelmed in midfield and at the set-piece. "It's like a tommy-gun trying to stop a tank," a mournful Irish supporter cried out.

From Orrell's perspective, the most heartening performance was that of Steve Bibby in the back row. With confirmation that Neil Ashurst, the Northern division flanker, has signed forms to join Sale, Bibby filled the gap with aplomb, and at the shoulder of Cleary demonstrated in scoring the third try directness and keen sense for an opening.

What they lack in pace, Orrell's backs make up for in ingenuity. From a quick tap penalty, Taberner charged to the line, mesmerising the stranded opposition who were then occupied by Langford long enough for Wynn to come bursting through.

Orrell will need to keep their wits about them. They have lost before when expected to win so even with fixtures against Bath and Leicester out of the way, danger lurks still. But if the Irish continue to surrender as abjectly and show the dark side of their nature as often as they did at Edge Hall Road, their number might already be up.

SCORERS: Orrell: Tries: Taberner, Wynn Bibby Conversions: Langford (2) Ainscough Penalty goal: Ainscough. London Irish: Penalty goal: Corcoran.

ORRELL: S Taberner; J Wynn, S Langford, I Wynn, P Harker; G Ainscough, D Morris, M Hynes, G French; D Southern, P Manley, C Durant, C Cooper, S Bibby, D Cleary

LONDON IRISH: J Staples; M Corcoran, R Henderson, M Nolan, S Geoghegan, O Cobbe, N Beer; N Derbyshire, P Nelson, G Halpin, P Collins, C Hall, S Dornan, R Jenkins, A Mehrtens.

Referee: A Rouy (Bristol)

Hunter's ambition goes unfulfilled

Northampton 22
Bristol 19

By Bryan Stiles

PERSONAL ambition counted for almost as much as league points in this first division match played on the fringe of relegation at Franklin's Gardens on Saturday. Martin Bayfield wanted to prove he was England's best lineout jumper — and he succeeded — and Ian Hunter was desperate to show he was the player England need at full back or even on the wing against Ireland on Saturday.

Unfortunately he quickly showed he was out of the hunt. John Elliott and Mike Slemen, the England selectors, must have groaned with the rest of the crowd as Hunter tried to make up for lack of match practice with overly-ambitious tactics. It was his first game after injury and it showed. He gambled too often with long-range passes and lost. He fumbled, his line kicking lacked accuracy and he generally showed a lack of awareness. The clarion call to arms had come one match too soon.

Even more galling for Hunter was that the selectors were probably marking some more plus points in their dossier on Hunter's opposite number, Paul Hull, the Bristol and England A full back, who was assured in almost everything he did.

While Hunter grieved so Bayfield celebrated as, having taken over the captaincy from the absent Tim Rodber, he led his side to two important points in the Courage Clubs Championship, which lifted them to just over halfway in the table.

Bristol went down by a goal and five penalties to two tries and two penalties, but must have thought they were going to claim victory in a splendid late rally that sorely tested the Northampton defence.

Tainton gave Bristol an early lead with a penalty goal and Grayson replied with two for Northampton. Beal, the sharpest back on the field, produced two devastating runs down the middle, Fletcher profiting from the second. The centre wriggled out of a tackle by Saverimutto to dart in under the posts. Grayson converted to give Northampton a 13-3 lead.

Eves, the Bristol captain, struck back almost immediately for an opportunist try which left Bristol trailing 13-8 at the interval.

Three more penalties by Grayson seemed to make the game safe but in a storming finale Tainton kicked two penalties and Barrow surged over for a try from a scrum.

SCORERS: Northampton: Try: Fletcher. Conversion: Grayson. Penalty goals: Grayson (5). Bristol: Tries: Eves, Barrow. Penalty goals: Tainton (3)

NORTHAMPTON: I Hunter; K Morgan, J Fletcher, N Beal, H Thomasson; P Grayson, M Dawson; C Allen, A Clarke, G Pearce, P Walton, N Edwards, M Bayfield, C Milhouse, M Steffert.

BRISTOL: P Hull; D John, A Saverimutto, R Knibbs, S Crossland, M Tainton, K Bracken; A Sharp, M Regan, D Hinkins, R Armstrong, S Shaw, M Skuse, D Eves, C Barrow.

Referee: R Quittenton (Sussex).

WEEKEND RUGBY UNION RESULTS AND TABLES

Courage Clubs Championship

First division

Gloucester 6 Bath 16

Gloucester: Pens: T Smith. Dropped goal: Cummins. Bath: Try: Ojomoh. Con: Callard. Pens: Callard 3.

Harlequins 12 Newcastle G 6

Harlequins: Pens: Challinor 4. Newcastle Gosforth: Pens: Johnson 2.

Northampton 22 Bristol 19

Northampton: Try: Fletcher. Con: Grayson. Pens: Grayson 5. Bristol: Tries: Barrow, Eves. Pens: Tainton 3.

Orrell 24 London Irish 3

Orrell: Tries: Bibby, Taberner, Wynn. Cons: Langford 2. Ainscough. Pen: Ainscough. London Irish: Pen: Corcoran.

Wasps 13 Leicester 15

Wasps: Try: P Hopley. Con: Andrew. Pens: Andrew 2. Leicester: Pens: Harris 4. Dropped goal: Harris.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bath	13	12	0	1	300	118	24
Leicester	13	11	0	2	268	135	22
Wasps	12	7	1	4	240	212	15
Harlequins	13	7	0	6	242	175	14
Northampton	13	6	0	7	211	251	12
Orrell	13	5	0	7	184	186	10
Bristol	12	5	0	7	179	194	10
Gloucester	13	4	2	7	173	238	10
L Irish	11	3	0	8	110	216	6
Newcastle G	12	0	1	11	112	294	1

LEADING SCORERS: 157: J Harris (Leicester, 2 tries, 9 conversions, 32 penalty goals, 11 dropped goals); 150: R Andrew (Wasps, 2t, 13c, 37pg, 1dg); 127: J Callard (Bath, 2t, 18c, 27pg); 121: P Grayson (Northampton, 2t, 9c, 30pg, 1dg); 109: K Bray (Harlequins, 1t, 7c, 30pg); 82: M Tainton (Bristol, 8c, 20pg); 66: D Johnson (Newcastle Gosforth: 1c, 17pg, 1dg); S Langford (Orrell: 7c, 14pg); 64: T Smith (Gloucester: 9c, 14pg)

Second division

L Scottish 22 Rugby 11

London Scottish: Tries: Appleson, McLellan. Sly Cons: Walker 2. Pen: Walker. Rugby: Try: Mapletoft. Pen: Macleod. Dropped goal: Macleod.

Nottingham 16 Wakefield 13

Nottingham: Tries: Bradley, West. Pens: Gregory 2. Wakefield: Try: Thompson. Con: Jackson. Pens: Jackson 2.

Sale 88 Otley 9

Sale: Tries: Verbickas 5, Warr 3, Erskine, Mallinder, Turner, Whitcombe, Young, penalty try. Cons: Turner 9. Otley: Pens: Rutledge 2. Dropped goal: Petyt.

Saracens 37 Waterloo 0

Saracens: Tries: Ravenscroft, Hill 2, Hughes 2. Cons: Tunmingley 3. Pens: Tunmingley 2.

W Hartlepool 16 Moseley 15

West Hartlepool: Tries: Brown, Wrigley. Pens: Clapham 2. Moseley: Pens: Hodgkinson 4. Dropped goal: Kerr.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
W Hartlepool	13	11	1	1	310	183	23
Sale	13	9	1	2	296	87	19
Saracens	13	9	1	3	203	162	19
Wakefield	13	6	3	5	237	170	13
Moseley	13	5	3	5	178	166	10
Nottingham	13	4	1	8	156	224	9
Rugby	13	4	1	8	135	209	9
Waterloo	13	4	1	8	153	263	9
Otley	13	4	1	8	165	326	9
L Scottish	12	4	0	8	144	182	8

LEADING SCORERS: 114: A Tunningley (Saracens: 4 tries, 11 conversions, 24 penalty goals) 108: G Gregory (Nottingham, 1t, 5c, 27pg, 4 dropped goals) 105: P Turner (Sale, 1t, 23c, 17pg, 1dg) 98: J Stabler (West Hartlepool 1t 15c, 19pg, 2dg) 88: M Mapletoft (Rugby, 5, 6c 16pg, 1dg) 85: P Rutledge (Otley, 2t, 8c, 21pg) 81: A Lilley (Wakefield, 9c, 21pg), 78: S Svandelis (Waterloo, 3c, 23pg).

Third division

Bedford 27 Havant 12

Bedford: Tries: Mansell, Wharton. Con: Finnie. Pens: Finnie 5. Havant: Tries: Knight, Russell. Con: Grey.

Exeter 27 Fylde 3

Exeter: Tries: Dowell, Green, Westgate. Cons: Green 3. Pens: Green. Dropped goal: Green. Fylde: Dropped goal: Barclay.

Morley 12 Blackheath 13

Morley: Pens: Graychon 4. Blackheath: Try: Findlay. Con: Burns. Pens: Burns 2.

Redruth 9 Richmond 27

Redruth: Pens: Blake 3. Richmond: Tries: Elliott, penalty tries 2. Cons: Hoad 3. Pens: Hoad 2.

Rosslyn Park 10 Coventry 12

Rosslyn Park: Try: Downey. Cons: Abraham. Dropped goal: Abraham. Coventry: Tries: Evans, Thomson. Con: Thomson.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Coventry	12	10	0	2	253	182	20
Richmond	12	7	0	5	243	175	14
Blackheath	12	7	0	5	212	195	14
Fylde	12	7	0	5	196	168	14
Rosslyn Pk	11	6	1	4	196	129	13
Exeter	11	6	1	4	190	176	13
Bedford	10	6	0	4	171	153	12
Morley	12	4	0	8	180	211	8
Havant	11	2	0	9	134	240	4
Redruth	11	1	0	10	90	244	2

LEADING SCORERS: 110: A Green (Exeter, 3 tries, 13 conversions 22 penalty goals, 1 dropped goal) 100: J Grayshon (Morley: 11c, 23pg, 3dg) 90: M Livesey (Richmond: 1t, 14c, 17pg, 2 dropped goals) 73: A Parker (Fylde: 11c, 17pgs, 72: R Angell (Coventry: 12c, 15pg, 1dg) 71: A Finnie (Bedford: 7c, 16pg, 1dg) 58: S Burns (Blackheath 2t, 3c, 14pg) 53: P Robin (Rosslyn Park, 2t, 8c, 9pg).

Fourth division

Askeans	11	Broughton Park	19
Clifton	10	Aspatria	11
Liverpool St H	10	Plymouth	8
Sheffield	9	Harrogate	29
Sudbury	8	Leeds	14

Fifth division south

Maidstone	6	Bem. H	14
Met Police	15	High Wycombe	6
N Walsham	11	Weston-S-Mare	14
Reading	22	Basingstoke	3
Southend	16	Lydney	26
Tabard	28	Camborne	9

Fifth division north

Bradford	22	Birmingham	5
Hereford	16	Stoke-on-Trent	9
Preston G	21	Lichfield	12
Stourbridge	24	Kendal	15
Walsall	22	Durham	16
Wilmington Pk	24	Nuneaton	12

McEwan's League

First division

Boroughmuir 25 Stirling Co 20

Boroughmuir: Tries: Knight, Stark. Pens: Easson 5. Stirling County: Try: Parsons. Pens: Williamson 5.

Gala 23 Kelso 20

Gala: Tries: Paterson 2, Corsbran. Con: Dods. Pens: Dods 2. Kelso: Tries: J Roxburgh, penalty try. Cons: Atchison 2. Pens: Atchison 2.

Heriots FP 17 Edinburgh Ac 25

Heriots FP: Tries: Gilmour, Robertson, Stoddart. Con: Murray. Edinburgh Academicals: Tries: Paterson, Shepherd, Wilson. Cons: Hay-Smith 2. Pens: Hay-Smith 2.

Jed-Forest 43 Currie 19

Jed-Forest: Tries: Scott 2, Yule, Amos, Brown, Hynd. Cons: McKendrick 5. Pen: McKendrick. Currie: Tries: Forrester, McIntyre, Morrison. Cons: Morrison 2.

Selkirk 18 Melrose 38

Selkirk: Tries: Johnston, Nichol. Con: Row. Pens: Row 2. Melrose: Tries: Joiner 2, G Parker 2, B Redpath. Cons: G Parker 2. Pens: G Parker 3.

Stewart's Mel 5 Hawick 22

Stewart's Mel FP: Try: Burns. Hawick: Tries: Stanger. Con: Welsh. Pens: Welsh 2. Dropped goals: Welsh 2.

W of Scotland 17 Watsonians 40

West of Scotland: Tries: Munro, Newell, Shaw. Con: Barrat. Watsonians: Tries: Henderson 2, Garry, Aitken, Hastings, Kerr. Cons: Hodge 4. Pens: Hodge 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melrose	11	10	0	1	307	160	20
Edinburgh Ac	11	7	1	3	217	159	15
Heriots FP	11	7	0	4	227	175	14
Gala	10	7	0	3	226	176	14
Jed-Forest	11	6	0	5	196	146	12
Currie	11	6	0	5	220	210	12
Stirling Co	10	5	1	4	194	134	11
Hawick	10	5	1	4	148	153	11
Stewart's Mel	11	5	1	5	130	149	11
Watsonians	11	5	0	6	210	314	10
Boroughmuir	11	4	0	7	192	225	8
W of Scotland	11	3	1	7	207	251	7
Kelso	10	2	0	8	137	248	4
Selkirk	11	0	1	10	125	236	1

Second division

Ayr	18	Biggar	7
Glasgow High	17	Dundee HSFP	10
Hodgkinson	13	Grangemouth	11
Kirkcaldy	14	Clarkston	6
Musselburgh	24	Glasgow Ac	6
Preston	13	Edinburgh W	18
Wigtownshire	6	Preston Lodge	11

Heineken League

First division

Newbridge 16 Dunvant 0

Newbridge: Tries: Hooper, Lucas. Pen: Green, Taylor.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Swansea	16	14	0	2	412	200	28
Neath	15	13	1	1	423	195	27
Pontypridd	16	12	1	3	441	226	25
Cardiff	16	11	1	4	502	144	23
Llanelli	16	11	1	4	370	238	23
Bridgend	16	7	1	8	307	317	15
Newbridge	16	6	1	9	258	286	13
Newport	17	6	1	10	251	365	13
Aberavon	16	4	1	11	181	331	9
Pontypool	17	4	0	13	231	566	8
Dunvant	16	4	0	12	173	359	8
Cross Keys	15	0	0	15	163	486	0

Insurance Corporation League

First division

Shannon 6 Blackrock Col 18
Wanderers 23 Garryowen 39

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackrock C	5	5	0	0	82	44	10
Garryowen	7	5	0	2	128	93	10
Cork Con	6	4	0	2	116	69	8
Dungannon	7	4	0	3	135	93	8
Shannon	6	3	0	3	72	59	6
Greystones	6	3	0	3	70	74	6
Y Munster	7	3	0	4	75	114	6
St Mary's C	6	2	0	4	83	103	4
Old Wesley	7	2	0	5	95	94	4
Lansdowne	5	1	0	4	67	111	2
Wanderers	5	1	0	4	79	123	2

Club matches

Cardiff	40	Cambridge Univ	13
Llanelli	56	Notbarn	15
L Welsh	17	Rotherham	18
Neath	34	S Wales Pol	15
Newport	41	Maesteg	10
Penarth	11	Pontypridd	42
Pontypool	42	Glamorgan W	14
Swansea	39	Abertillery	22
Tenby Utd	16	Aberavon	13
Llanharan	23	Bridgend	13

Cancelled: Mountain Ash v Swansea University.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

AGRE

(a) To torment or vex, from the OF *agrier*, modern French *aigrir* to torment: "See ye not how this foolish hermit agreth and scorneth us, by cause he hath not be overcome?"

BIWRIXLE

(b) Transitive verb meaning to change or transform, from the OE *bi-* = *be-* + *wrixlan* to change: "He is him sulf al biwrixled, & bicumen, of Godes chil, thes deofles bearn."

SALPICON

(b) A kind of stuffing for veal, beef or mutton, adaptation of the Spanish *salpicar* to sprinkle or pickle, from *sal* salt + *picar* to pick: "Salpicon is a Ragoe usually made for large joints of Beef, Veal, or Mutton, which are to be served up roasted for the side dishes."

SNAPY

(a) Of land, wet, marshy, boggy, in south-western dialect, *snape* denotes a spring or boggy place in a field, origin obscure: "Snapy ground containing small springs, and requiring to be drained."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qe2! Rh1 2 g3 and the black rook is trapped.

SPAIN

As the recession keeps its grip on Europe, does Spain have the will or the political muscle to impose necessary reforms, asks **Peter Strafford**

PIERRE P.H. MARCOU



Last month, union members faced riot police as they staged a one-day general strike in protest against new employment legislation. But it has not deterred the government from its reform policies

The economic pain in Spain

After several years of growing self-confidence in the late 1980s, culminating in the festivities of 1992, when it celebrated the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's discovery of the New World, Spain is suffering from a hangover. It is not alone in this, at a time of recession in Europe. But economic difficulties are hitting the Spanish particularly hard, with, for instance, an estimated 23 per cent or more unemployed.

At the same time the socialist government of Felipe González has been weakened politically. The socialist party (PSOE) emerged as the winner in last June's general election, in spite of expectations that it would be overtaken by the conservative Partido Popular (PP), but it lost the overall majority in parliament it had held since 1982.

Señor González tried to form a coalition with two nationalist parties, Convergència i Unió (CiU) of Catalonia and the Partido Nacional Vasco (PNV) of the Basque country, with which he would have commanded a permanent majority, but this proved impossible. So he now heads a minority government which needs to win support from elsewhere for each of its legislative measures.

For the parties of the opposition, all this implies that after being in power for nearly 12 years, the socialists are approaching the end of the line. José María Aznar, leader of the PP, told *The Times* that though in the end his party had not won last June's election, it had increased its votes from 5,200,000 to 8,200,000. It made its appeal to the young, particularly professionals and townspeople in general, and was a clear alternative to the socialists.

Iñaki Anasagasti, parliamentary leader of the PNV, talked of "the end of an epoch", and said that Señor González, the towering figure in Spanish politics since 1982, was "tired".

This is not the way the socialists see it, however, and, faced with an admittedly difficult situation, they are fighting back confidently. Narcís Serra, the deputy prime minister, who is himself a Catalan, said there were signs that Spain was emerging from recession. "Statistics for the second half of 1993 show a change in the trend", he told *The Times*. "There won't be a sudden change for the better, but we are slowly getting out."

Spanish companies were improving their profits, Señor Serra said, interest rates were still going down, and the favourable exchange rate for the peseta, after three devaluations, was helping the growth of exports. If other European countries picked up, so would Spain.

Señor Serra conceded that having only a minority government made things more difficult, but claimed that the results so far were "not bad". The government had received the support of the CiU and the PNV for austerity measures in the budget for 1994, adopted last autumn; and this was followed by an overwhelming parliamentary majority last month, including the PP, for an important series of reforms to the laws on employment.

Other reforms were either under way or planned, Señor Serra said, with two overall aims: to allow companies to become more competitive without reducing the number of employees, and to adjust the Spanish labour market to wider European conditions.

The underlying question is whether the government will have the will, and the political muscle, not just to pull Spain out of recession, but to carry through some fundamental reforms that are thought to be needed if the Spanish economy is to become competitive in the European Union. Since democracy returned to Spain after the death of General Franco in 1975, the overriding aim of all Spanish governments has been to overcome the backwardness and isolation the country had known for many years; and with the rapid growth of the 1980s there were hopes of achieving that.

The onset of recession has revealed continuing weaknesses, however, and steps have been taken to address them. One was the rigidity of the employment laws, some not so different from those of the Franco era. The new legislation is designed to improve that by, for instance, allowing for part-time employment, and the taking on of young people as apprentices at lower wage levels, and in general making it easier to hire and fire.

> "Europe has to deepen its economic and its political union. That will give Spain a stronger position"

For the moment, difficulties have been crowding in on the socialists thick and fast. In December, Promoción Social de Viviendas, a housing cooperative run by the Unión General de Trabajadores (UGT), the big socialist trade union confederation, collapsed; and this was followed by the near-collapse of Banco Español de Credito (Banesto), Spain's fourth-largest bank, leading to the dismissal of its board by the Bank of Spain and the appointment of a new team.

On January 27, the UGT and the Comisiones Obreras, the other main union confederation, called a one-day general strike in protest against the new employment legislation.

The strike slowed Spain down for a day, but it is not expected to deter the government from its reform policies. It reflected the differences between a socialist government that has long been one of the most pragmatic and market-orientated in Europe and its former supporters in the unions. These differences are still being fought out inside the PSOE, where Señor González has tried to shake off the influence of the left, and will come to a head at a party congress next month.

In the background is the age-old tension between Madrid and the Spanish regions, whose most extreme manifestation is the continuing, though weakened, terrorist campaign by Euskadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA), the Basque independence movement. The fact that the government is dependent on support from the CiU and the PNV in parliament has given moderate Catalan and Basque nationalists a greater degree of leverage. Both parties are basically in sympathy with the current reform moves, but have been pressing for the granting of greater autonomous powers in return.

At Catalan insistence, a new arrangement for the funding of the regions was agreed last autumn. This did not help the Basques, however, and both Miquel Roca, parliamentary leader of the CiU, and Señor Anasagasti want more. The Madrid government, they say, has still not fully carried out the terms of their original autonomy statutes, dating back to 1979.

There are significant differences between the Catalans, more numerous and prosperous, and the Basques. Señor Roca points out emphatically that the CiU is not a separatist party, and sometimes gives the impression that the party's aim is, far from secession from Spain, rather influence over the whole country.

Señor Anasagasti, on the other hand, caused a storm last month by publicly protesting against a speech by King Juan Carlos, made before a military audience, in which he made an oblique, and mild, reference to regional differences. "The diversity which enriches us", the King said, "must unite us rather than separate us".

By tradition, statements by the King are not publicly criticised in Spain, but Señor Anasagasti said that the speech had been "neither balanced nor just", and this was followed by fiery statements by other PNV leaders attacking the army and the Guardia Civil, the paramilitary police.

Señor Anasagasti said later that his objection was essentially to the audience before whom the King had spoken, since the position of the King should not be based just on "bayonets", but on the various constitutional bodies. He denied it, but the assumption in other parties is that the PNV was looking ahead to the regional election in the Basque Country this autumn, when it does not want to be outflanked by the extreme nationalists.

In its foreign policy, the Spanish government retains its belief in closer integration in the EU, based on the Maastricht treaty and going beyond it. This is in spite of recent difficulties in the exchange rate mechanism, which led to the devaluations of the peseta, and the more general disenchantment with the integration process.

Spain has demonstrated its greater involvement in international affairs by sending troops to Bosnia, and taking part in other United Nations operations in Angola and Mozambique. Within the EU, it has pressed for more attention to be paid to future tensions in North Africa, with its growing populations and its political, religious and economic difficulties.

Officials concede that as a result of recent difficulties in the EU, and the recession, public enthusiasm for the process of European integration has waned in Spain. But Señor Serra says that enthusiasm would revive once the recession ended, and that Spain continues to believe in monetary union. "Europe has to deepen both its economic and its political union. That will give Spain a stronger position."

Labour plans key to recovery

Spain hopes flexible working will turn the economy round

DANIEL BELTRA



The economic policies of Prime Minister Felipe González have angered the unions

Last year was one of the worst on record for the Spanish economy. It is 34 years since the country was in such a deep recession, with high unemployment and inflation, back in the dark days of Spain's isolation under the dictatorship of General Franco.

Spain's international credibility was also damaged, just before year's end, by the near-collapse of the country's fourth-largest bank, Banco Español de Crédito (Banesto).

To add to the catalogue of economic woes, the one-day national strike called on January 27 by Spain's two main trade union organisations, in protest against the government's reforms in the labour market, seriously disrupted industrial output.

Many economists believe that the Spanish economy has now touched bottom. But they are not predicting when the upturn will come, or how strong it will be, and Spaniards are generally unconvinced by the recent statement by Pedro Solbes, the economy minister, that recovery was around the corner, and would start in the second half of this year.

In the past 12 months, Spain had negative growth of almost a full percentage point year on year, in sharp contrast to the recent times when spectacular growth rates of 5 and 6 per cent saw the country begin to catch up fast with its wealthier neighbours in the European Community. The mood of confidence that allowed Spain, just two years ago, to organise not only Expo '92 at Seville but the Barcelona Olympics, has vanished.

So, too, has the talk of Spain being in a good position to meet the strict monetary and economic conditions laid down in the Maastricht Treaty for convergence with the strongest of the EC economies by 1997. It is now clear that it would take an economic miracle for Spain to comply with the Maastricht criteria. Judged on its present inflation figures, interest rates and budget deficit, Spain seems on the way to joining the third rank of EC economies.

Unemployment, for so long the endemic problem of the Spanish economy, continues its relentless rise. According to the most recent government figures, the number of people registered as jobless in December was more than 2.7 million, or 17 per cent of the working population.

> Spaniards await proof of an upturn

The figure is even higher when Spaniards who do not register on the government's list are taken into account.

The latest official statistics, based on a poll carried out in September, reveal that the unemployment figure was possibly nearer 3.5 million. According to those figures, almost one in four of the Spanish workforce was without a job.

There are grounds for disputing the accuracy of these figures. While it is impossible to measure the real size of Spain's black economy, few doubt that it is considerable, and it is known that many people claiming benefit do, in fact, have jobs. Nevertheless, Spain's unemployment rate is still reckoned to be running at about double the EC average.

Inflation is proving difficult to keep under control, in spite of the recession. In January, prices rose by a full 1 per cent, bringing the annual rate to 5 per cent, well above the government's forecast. Public spending is still increasing. Mounting public debt and the growth of expenditure on general services meant that the budget deficit for 1993 rose to £17.5 billion, and that figure will rise further when spending by the regional governments is added.

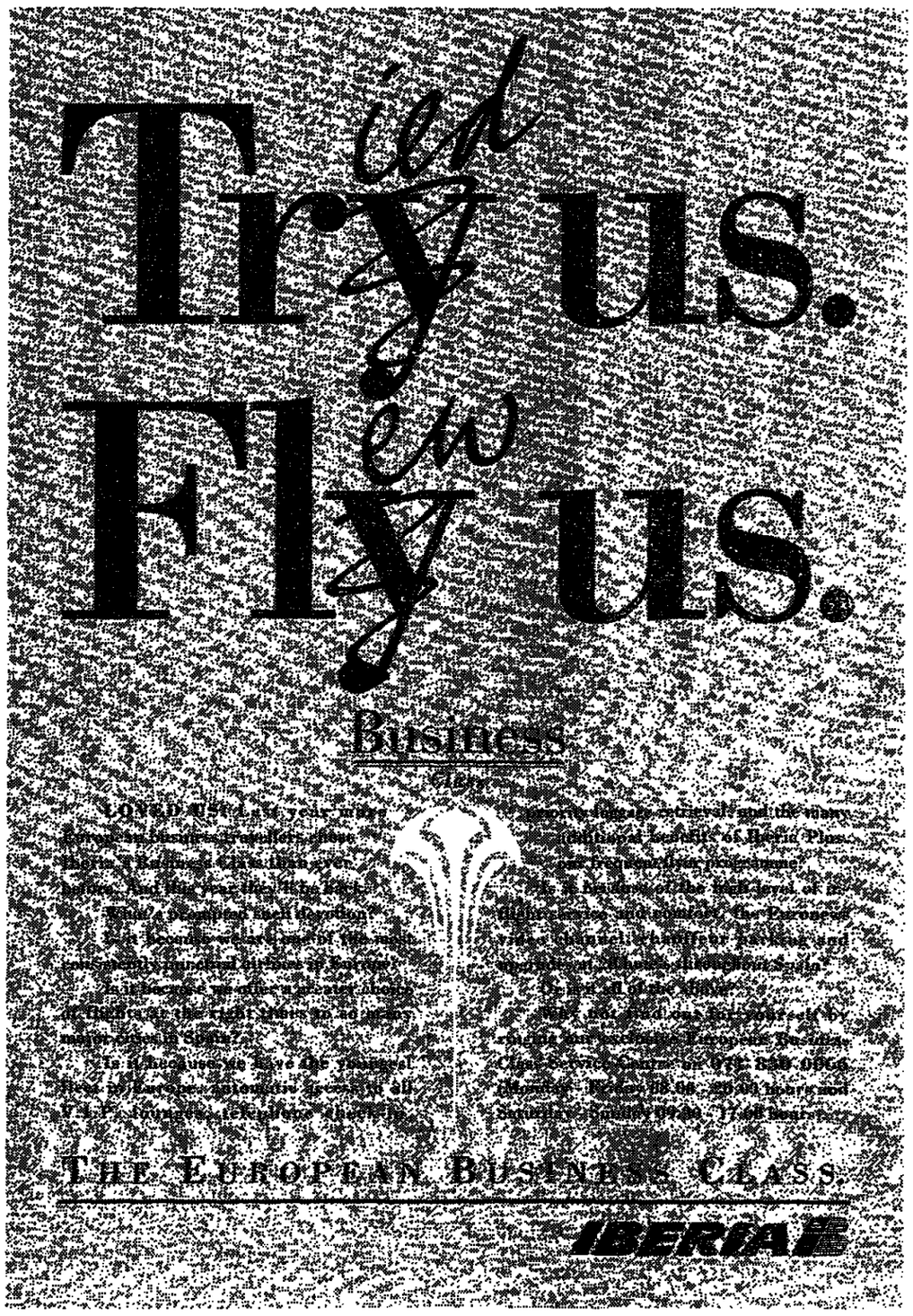
Just about the only bright spot on the horizon recently has been an improvement in the balance of trade figures. A perceptible rise in Spanish exports and greater earnings from tourism can both be put down to a weaker peseta, which has undergone three devaluations in the past 18 months.

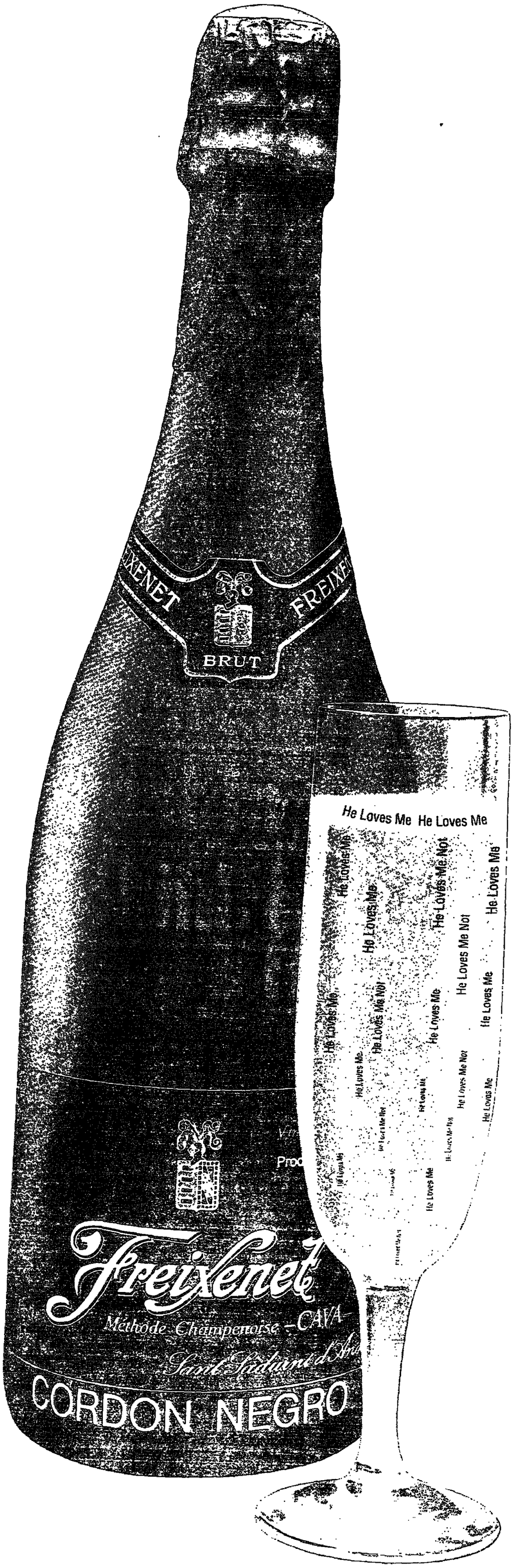
The government's response to the ailing Spanish economy has been to insist on greater flexibility in the labour market and on moderate wage claims. Both are considered vital if Spain's competitiveness is to be improved. After the uncertainties arising out of last year's inconclusive election, several months were lost trying unsuccessfully to get a package of measures agreed between the government, the trade unions and the leaders of Spanish business.

In the end, the government decided to proceed with a policy of moderate reforms in the labour market, making it less expensive for employers to lay off workers and allowing new contracts to be issued on a temporary basis. These measures, described by the unions as the most regressive in recent history, prompted last month's general strike.

Five years ago, after the government had threatened tighter monetary and fiscal policies, the unions mobilised most of the country against belt-tightening. On that occasion, they were successful in reversing government policy. This time, it seems unlikely that they will succeed. But it remains to be seen whether the government's measures will prove sufficient, on their own, to turn round the Spanish economy.

FRANK SMITH





WINES FROM

SPAIN

SPANISH

FESTIVAL
SPRING 1994

Tourism off the beaten track

Spain has much more to offer travellers than its beaches, explains **Peter Strafford**

Despite its economic problems, Spain is attracting more British tourists than ever. Already the Spanish Tourist Office in London has been warning travellers to confirm their bookings before joining the summer rush, as it fears overbookings. But Spain has more to offer than crowded beaches; there is a rich historical heritage to be found inland.

Perched on Spain's central *meseta*, or plateau, Madrid is one of the highest cities in Europe. It is surrounded by a cluster of remarkable old cities — particularly Toledo, Segovia, Avila and Salamanca — that are packed with Spanish history, and all within easy reach of the capital, by train, bus or car.

Madrid is the *parvenu* among them, having been little more than a small town before Philip II picked it as his capital in the 16th century. The other four cities all go back to Roman times, or even earlier, were occupied by the Visigoths and the Moors, and flowered under Spanish rule during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

Each also makes its own dramatic impression today. Toledo is piled up a steep, rocky bend in the river Tagus, in a setting made famous by El Greco, while Segovia stands on an outcrop of rock like a ship under full sail. Avila, high on a plateau of its own, is still surrounded by a massive stone wall, visible from miles away, which was built in the 11th century. The buildings of the university city of Salamanca, in a glowing golden stone, tower over the long Roman bridge that crosses the river Tormes at its foot.

Castile and the *meseta* are in many ways the heart of the country, a harsh region with a severe climate, cold in winter and hot in summer. This is the land of castles and windmills, of roast lamb and sucking pig, and of memories of the long struggle between the Christians and the Moors.

You need to allow plenty of time to see everything in these cities. Toledo is a treasure house of art and architecture, while Salamanca is a city of great charm with some outstanding buildings. But it is possible to make a quick trip that will show the best of Segovia and Avila, which are only 40 miles apart, and are a study in contrast.

The outstanding monument in Segovia is the Roman aqueduct, a massive but graceful structure built in the 1st century and still used until recently. At the opposite end of the old hilltop city are the almost fanciful turrets and keep of the *alcázar*, or castle, while around them are narrow streets, picturesque squares, and one of the best collections of Romanesque churches to be found in Spain.

Most of these churches have a style distinctive to Segovia, with tall towers and arched galleries along the sides. They range from the magnificent San Esteban, whose tower with five ranges of arcading dominates one of the squares, to the tiny, 12-sided chapel of Vera Cruz, built by the knights of the Holy Sepulchre in the 13th century, which stands alone on the *meseta* far below.

One church that is not Romanesque is the 16th-century cathedral, one of the last achievements of Spanish Gothic, which combines massive size with extraordinary lightness. Its flying buttresses and pinnacles tower over the Plaza Mayor, near which Isabella was proclaimed queen of Castile in 1474. Down a side-street is a relic of Spanish Jewry, a synagogue that was turned into the church of Corpus Christi after the Jews were expelled in 1492.

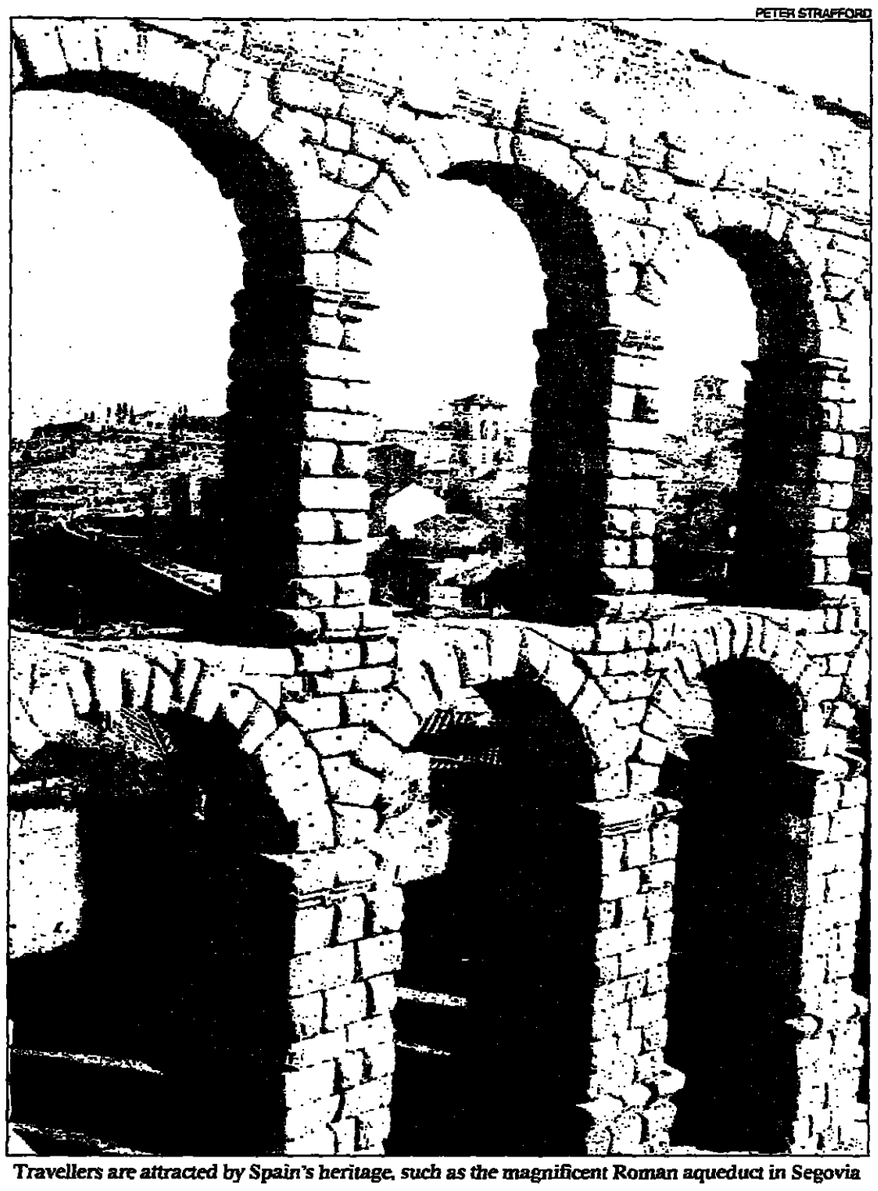
Avila makes a sharp contrast to the golden stone of Segovia, with many of its buildings constructed from a grey granite which is less easily carved. But the city's walls are one of the most remarkable relics of the Middle Ages, with their huge gates and bastions. Avila, too, has its churches, together with the palatial residences of Castilian aristocrats.

Avila is also known for its most famous resident, St Teresa, the mystic who was born in the city in 1515 and went on to found convents all over the country. There are three convents in the city which keep her memory alive — Santa Teresa, La Encarnación and San José.

Avila's cathedral is an austere and imposing Gothic building, much of it built in granite, whose east end is part of the city walls. Nearby is the more delicate San Vicente, a large and beautifully-proportioned Romanesque basilica, with fine carvings around its south and west doors; and another Romanesque church, San Pedro, is the focal point of the busy and attractive Plaza de Santa Teresa.

It is worth walking from the centre of Avila to see the monastery of Santo Tomás. This was patronised in the 15th century by Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand, and it has three cloisters, two of them elaborately carved.

PETER STRAFFORD



Travellers are attracted by Spain's heritage, such as the magnificent Roman aqueduct in Segovia

Monetary link put at risk by economy

Spain fears it cannot meet the Maastricht rules

Spain is a relative newcomer to the European political scene, having been cut off behind the Pyrenees in the days of the Franco dictatorship and, in practice, for many years before that, writes Peter Strafford.

So now that it is a fully paid-up member of the European Union, Nato and the various European organisations, it is still showing, in the words of one senior official, "the enthusiasm of a neophyte".

Spain continues to be a supporter of the principle of a common European currency, in spite of the battering that the peseta in particular and the EU's exchange rate mechanism in general have undergone in the last two years. It also believes strongly in the need for a common foreign and security policy in the EU, together with the institutional means to carry it out.

It has been disconcerting for Madrid, therefore, to realise that to meet the criteria of the Maastricht treaty for economic convergence will be an uphill, and very likely impossible, task. Steps are being taken to put the Spanish economy back on track after the recession, but the country has a high budget deficit, one of the highest rates of unemployment in the EU, and inflation that, although only about 5 per cent, is still above the EU average.

The policy of Felipe González's government has consistently been to make sure that Spain was in the front rank of EU countries in the progress towards a common currency. But it now faces the prospect of being left behind.

To prevent this, the Government is insisting that when EU members meet, by the terms of Maastricht, to decide whether or not to move to the next stage of monetary union on January 1, 1997, the vote should be taken by a qualified majority of the present 12 members. Otherwise, the Spanish fear, with the EU enlarged by then to include some or all of the present applicants, Austria, Sweden, Finland and Norway, the outcome of the vote could be very different.

The Spanish are uncomfortably aware that the four applicants all have stronger economies than their own. They are in favour of admitting the four, officials say, but want the present system of checks and balances to be maintained.

Spain also intends to take a tough line in the negotiations. Officials argue that enlargement should strengthen the union rather than weaken it, and are in no mood to make concessions to the would-be members over such constitutional questions as neutrality.

Closer union does not mean, officials insist, that national states will disappear. But they argue that Europe will be richer if it is integrated, and are opposed to the notion that the EU should be diluted to become little more than a free trade area.

"Europe" has long held an almost mystical attraction for Spaniards. During the Franco regime it symbolised a prosperous and democratic way of life from which they were excluded. Even now, when they have discovered that membership of the EU will not automatically resolve all their difficulties, and that on the contrary, adaptation to its requirements can cause pain, it has still not lost its attraction.

A region about which Spain has a particular concern, and has taken a distinctive stand in the EU, is the Mediterranean, and especially North Africa. Spain has historical reasons for preoccupation with North Africa, from which it is only divided by a narrow strip of sea. It argues that, with serious difficulties building up in Algeria, Egypt and elsewhere, Europeans have to ensure that their security is not threatened from that quarter.

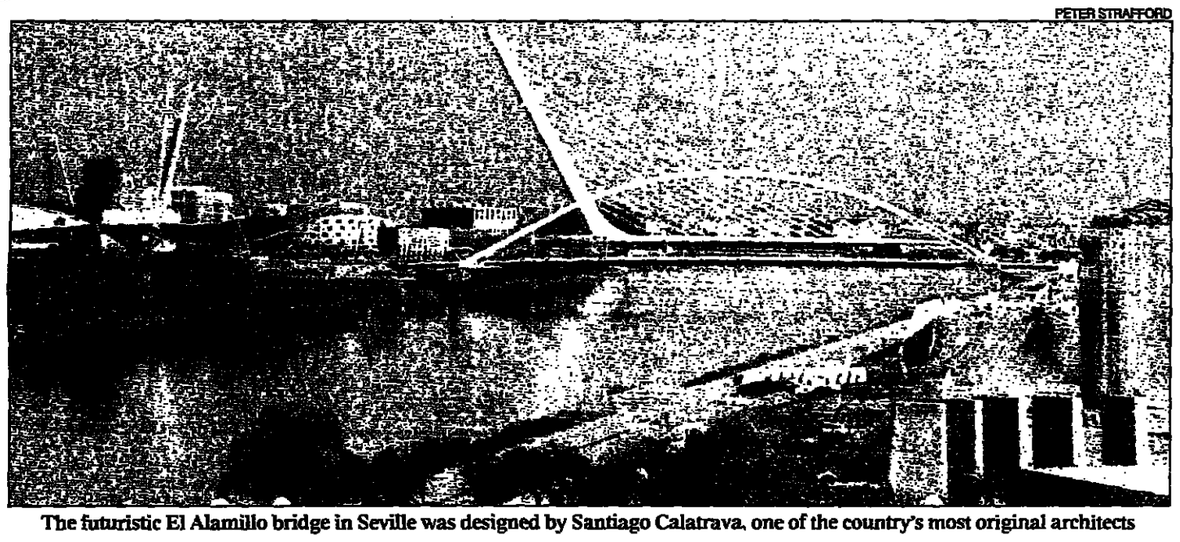
The difficulties are essentially economic at this stage, officials say. But they point out that whereas in 1958 two-thirds of the population surrounding the Mediterranean lived on its northern shores, by 2025 that same proportion will be living on the southern shores.

The populations of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania are growing by 2 million a year, they say. Over the next 30 years the present figure of 65 million is expected to rise to 130 million.

Building on the foundations of new-found freedom

A new wave of architects is taking Spain in a bold direction

PETER STRAFFORD



The futuristic El Alamillo bridge in Seville was designed by Santiago Calatrava, one of the country's most original architects

During the Franco years few names in Spanish architecture were known abroad. Outstanding work was done in protecting the historic centres of Spain's old cities, but some of the brightest sparks went north of the Pyrenees: Santiago Calatrava settling in Zurich and Ricardo Bofill finding work in France.

All this has changed. New architecture has been seen as a means of expressing Spain's new-found democratic freedoms. Spanish architects have been showing a verve and originality that have led to commissions not just in Spain, but also abroad. The most striking of these is Calatrava's new station for the TGV, or high-speed train, at Satolas, outside Lyons.

Spanish architects look particularly to the classic early Modern Movement, with its simple geometric volumes, flat roofs and flat façades. These came into vogue in the 1980s, and then there were the two great catalysts of the Barcelona Olympics and Expo '92, the Seville world fair, both held in 1992 and preceded by a wave of new building. For 10 years Spain has been bursting with French-style grand public projects, with a new grandeur and even monumentalism.

No architect is more distinctive than José Rafael Moneo. His museum of Roman art in Mérida, in Extremadura, is a supremely elegant evocation of the architecture of antiquity in a modern idiom. The main hall has the scale of the imperial baths in Rome and the beautiful interior brickwork of Roman basilicas. Still more monumental is his airport at Seville, so solid and impenetrable-looking on the outside that you could mistake it for Fort Knox. Inside, the concourse is a modern Alhambra, with a dozen beehive domes resting on Moorish arches.

Seville's new Santa Justa railway station, by Antonio Cruz and Antonio Ortiz, has been likened to a slumbering behemoth with a curving canopy projecting like a vast tongue. Inside, a huge shoebox ticket-hall and gentle ramps to the platforms are, to an English eye, a little too reminiscent of Euston, but the platform roofs, a dramatic trio of parabolic arches, add a new chapter to railway architecture.

The man who, above all, is taking architecture in an adventurous new direction is Santiago Calatrava. His buildings and bridges move towards the realm of sculpture and natural forms. His bridges in Barcelona and Seville are modern icons, with bow-shaped trusses and cable-stays tense like the strings of giant lyres and harps. Bofill's supercharged creations, such as his vast new quarter in Montpellier, mix historical elements to produce startling surrealist results.

In domestic architecture, one building stands out for sheer ambitious individuality — the Villa Escarrer in Majorca by Josep Martorell, Oriol Bohigas and David Mackay. This is a Balearic counterpart to John Outram's sensational New House in Sussex, reinterpreting historic forms in a bold modern idiom.

The shallow pitch of its tiled roof and the terraces expanding into the landscape have a touch of early Frank Lloyd Wright. What makes the building so original is the wonderful sense of texture and colour.

One of the more interesting trends is the careful revival of traditional styles. This is not what is so often derided as pastiche, but a dignified return to local forms, materials and craftsmanship. It is happening in simple, whitewashed houses with sash windows on the island of Minorca, and in the colonnades surrounding a new rural centre at La Rigada, near the town of Muskiz, outside Bilbao, by Javier Cenicacelaya and Inigo Salona.

The latest trend in new architecture is Deconstruction, the process whereby walls and roofs lean at disturbing angles suggesting a building is literally exploding. A suave example is the Hostalets Civic Centre in Barcelona by Enric Miralles and Carme Pinos, composed as a series of dagger-like shards.

The same architects have produced the Cubiertas in the Paseo Icaria in Barcelona's Villa Olimpica. This is described as "a festive procession of giant puppets", but is more like a streetscape of lamp-posts and telegraph poles shattered by an earthquake.

Similar wit is at work in a new office building by Andrés Perea in Tres Cantos, outside Madrid, where a rhomboid block has been split into two revealing snaking walls of glass, like a piece of quartz — matt on the outside and gleaming within.

MARCUS BINNEY

SPANISH FESTIVAL CELEBRATES THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ITS GREAT AND GOOD

Spain is putting on an ambitious arts festival in London this spring, which will show off Spanish achievements in a wide range of the arts, writes Peter Strafford.

"Picasso: Sculptor/Painter", at the Tate Gallery, opens the festival on February 16, and the last event will be an exhibition of small paintings by Goya at the Royal Academy, closing on June 12.

Lord Douro, chairman of the festival committee, says: "We have brought together an impressive collection of not only the best, but also the lesser-known aspects, of what Spain has contributed in the areas of art, architecture, dance, drama, film, music, painting, photography and sculpture."

The painters represented will include, apart from Picasso and Goya, Zurbarán and Dalí; and there will also be modern art. In dance, there will be performances at Sadler's Wells by the Ballet Cristina Hoyos and the Compañía Nacional de Danza.

The Compañía Nacional de Teatro Clásico will be performing *La Gran Sultana* by Cervantes, also at Sadler's Wells, and there will be 19 concerts of Spanish music, classical and modern, including a performance on April 7 at the Queen Elizabeth Hall by the Orquesta de Cambra Teatre Lliure of Barcelona.

There will be Spanish films at the National Film Theatre, photography at the Photographers' Gallery, and an exhibition devoted to Santiago Calatrava, the architect, at the Bruton Street gallery.

● *Information line: 0891 888780. Address: 23-28 Charterhouse Sq, London EC1M 6HP*

STEPHEN MARKESON



Bilbao, in the Basque Country, one of Spain's "historic nations"

Regions compete for power and money

A system designed to hold the nation together is showing signs of strain

One of the great challenges of Spain's political transition in the 1970s, from dictatorship to democracy, was how to defuse the conflict between centralism and regionalism that had dogged the country throughout the centuries. The fathers of the new democratic constitution devised a formula dividing Spain into 17 autonomous regions, and set in motion a process by which powers were gradually transferred from the centre, culminating in a large degree of home rule.

Only Germany, among Spain's European Union partners, has gone further down the road of decentralisation. Yet Spain remains a highly centralised country.

Every region has a government and a regional assembly of its own, chosen in elections held every four years. They provide services that vary from region to region. In the Basque Country, the regional government raises taxes and pays for its own police force, which works in tandem with Spain's national police and the Guardia Civil.

Catalonia does not have the power to raise taxes, but it does have a police force, and over the years has secured the control of several public services, ranging from education to a Catalan health service. In other regions, devolution has been slower.

The choice of a quasi-federal state divided into 17 regions was arbitrary. Spain does not naturally divide into so many parts. There have always been regions with distinct cultural and political identities, and the Basque Country and Catalonia, two of the "historic nations" of Spain, each with its own language, fall into that category. But some of the regions are no more than administrative divisions.

These differences were built into the "process of the autonomies" on purpose. The formula was known as "coffee for all", and devised in order to prevent the historic nations from acquiring too much power and threatening the unity of Spain. In practice, it meant that whenever the Catalans or Basques raised the stakes by asking for more devolved powers from the centre, Madrid could try to water down their demands by using the needs of the other regions as a counter-balance.

It is a system that has worked for nearly two decades. But the strain is beginning to show, especially since last June's election, which brought the socialist government in Madrid into closer contact with the regional governments in both Catalonia and the Basque Country.

Felipe González, the Prime Minister, failed to win an overall majority in parliament. In order to ensure the survival of his minority government, he chose to court the nationalists, particularly the Catalans of Convergència i Unió (CiU), whose 17 seats in the Madrid parliament gave them the balance of power.

The Catalans, as is their wont, bargained hard. The result of their support for the Government's budget for this year was a new deal on the funding of the regions. It is a complex financial arrangement, whereby the central government returns 15 per cent of the income tax levied in each region to finance the services provided by the autonomous governments. The Basque Country, because of the fiscal powers it already has, was excluded from the deal.

The new provisions were not liked by several regions, including the poorer ones. They accused the government of allowing the Catalans to dictate terms. Catalonia, with a higher per capita growth rate than the Spanish average, can indeed expect a greater share under the new system.

The dispute highlights a fundamental weakness in Spain's system of autonomous regions: its inability to treat all regions on an equal basis. It also points to the other big drawback inherent in this quasi-federal set-up. By establishing a constant bartering process, it encourages each region to milk the system for what it is worth, and that has become expensive.

Last year, the budget for the Spanish regions accounted for more than 40 per cent of the national kitty. The transfer of powers to the regions has not, however, been accompanied by a corresponding reduction in the size of services provided by the central government. It is questionable how much longer the Spanish taxpayer can go on paying for this.

FRANK SMITH

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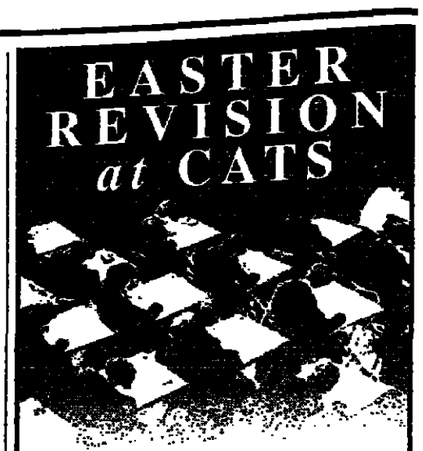
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Further particulars may be obtained from **(Mrs) Sally M D Wheeler, Personnel Director (Room 11/18), Office of the Registrar, the University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, tel: 0532 335775 - direct line,** quoting reference number 8/32 (Chair of Medieval History) or reference number 8/33 (Second Chair of Modern History).

The closing date for applications is: Friday, 18 March 1994.

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The appointment, which is open to men and women, will be for an initial period of three years, renewable thereafter for periods of five years, and for a full-time Bursar will carry a stipend within the range £30,000 to £37,000. The conditions of service are negotiable.

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Applications (10 copies) should be sent to the Principal's Secretary, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford OX2 6QA. Tel. (0865) 274302, fax (0865) 511063 by 11 March 1994. Applications should be accompanied by a full curriculum vitae and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees whom the College can contact immediately.

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Further information and an application form may be obtained from:

The Clerk, The Cordwainers College Association, Eldon Chambers, 30 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1AA. (Tel: 071-353 4309).

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EDUCATION

Technology has brought a revolution to the school library and the university campus — but there are dangers

Please sir, what are books for?

The rush to introduce CD-Rom must be treated with care, says **John O'Leary**


JOHN MANNING

The world at their fingertips — students at the Bacon's City Technology College, using high-tech equipment which gives them access to huge amounts of information

A subtle revolution is under way in British schools that could eventually change the way children learn. It is starting in the library, and is already dividing educationists.

The source of the change is a new generation of educational technology, and in particular the CD-Rom. Three-quarters of secondary schools now have the hardware to use these powerful computer discs, and only last Friday the Government announced a £4.5 million programme for primary schools.

There has been a series of government programmes, dating back to 1980 and totalling some £165 million, to encourage the spread of information technology in schools. The Education Department has already put £8 million into CD-Roms for the secondary sector.

Before long, most pupils will be researching projects and even having lessons on screen. Eric Forth, the schools minister, said: "Pupils will have access to enormous amounts of data — text, graphics, sound and even moving pictures — on one digital compact disc. Pilot studies have already shown that this is a powerful resource with potential for all areas of the curriculum."

The CD-Rom has enormous capacity. It is now possible to fit the Bible, the complete works of Shakespeare and Enclyclopaedia Britannica on a single disc.

When schools were first encouraged to invest in the new technology, relatively little educational material was available. But now everything from the *Guinness Disc of Records* to a limited range of encyclopaedias is marketed to schools, colleges and universities.

The Times and *The Sunday Times* were among the first into the market, with CD editions that now attract 1,400 subscribers. 80 per cent of which are schools. *Changing Times*, a compilation of reports on historic events, launched four months ago, has already sold 1,500 copies, and last week *The Times Educational Supplement* launched its *Bookfind* disc, listing and reviewing 500,000 titles.

However, the new generation of sophisticated educational software raises difficult issues for education. Does the learning process become so passive that children cease to think for themselves? Will pupils not use the system as a short-cut, avoiding the need to read books?

The new software is undoubtedly impressive. Animation or video pictures can bring a subject to life in a way that cannot be matched in books, search facilities lead the student on instantly to further areas of research, and sound is an important bonus for many subjects.

Children of the video age — especially those with little tradition of books at home — find obvious attractions in such an approach. But some librarians worry that they may be encouraging them to neglect basic skills.

> Some librarians worry that they may be encouraging their pupils to neglect the most basic skills

Some indexes will accept "approximate" spellings, for example, removing one incentive to tackle a common area of weakness. Another worry is the "cut-and-paste" facility, which enables users to copy blocks of text or illustration for use in their own work. Not only is plagiarism an obvious temptation, but there are also copyright implications.

Mary Mabey, the resource centre manager at Bacon's City Technology College, in south London, and editor of the *School Library 2000* journal, is an enthusiast for the new systems, but one who recognises the dangers. Her library is the state-of-the-art facility that many schools are trying to develop. The room is a hive of activity, both in and out of lessons.

In three years as a librarian, after an earlier career as a music teacher, Mrs Mabey has seen her job change out of all recognition. She has become an authority on the new technology, and is consulted regularly by the software companies as well as by colleagues in other schools.

"The CD-Rom can be an extremely positive and exciting vehicle for education, but certainly there are problems," she says. "Students can easily be brainwashed and get out of the habit of thinking for themselves."

The staff, too, have their problems. Mrs Mabey has helped several computer-phobic librarians set up systems that have been lying unused in cardboard boxes. She runs courses at the college to advise colleagues on the strengths and weaknesses of the new titles, which are now marketed fiercely by the software companies.

The prophets of high technology have long predicted the demise of the book. Schools are a long way from that point, and many still struggle to find the money to update their facilities. But the number of computers in schools more than doubled between 1988 and 1992, and the CD-Rom is spreading equally quickly.

As programmes are developed for the classroom, as well as the library, the practical and ethical issues associated with the new teaching technology will have to be faced in schools. It is already too late to turn the clock back.

Terms on the terminal

Students may soon be taking courses via video links and computer software

In the campus of the future, students will not have to attend a single university, but instead will enjoy associate membership of them all. Lectures on Monday will come courtesy of Cambridge; tutorials on Tuesday will be given by a professor at Manchester; research on Thursday will use the library at Liverpool — and all without the students ever needing to leave their bedrooms.

The key is information technology. The computer equivalent of an 0898 telephone call will allow students to access services across the country, paying individual universities and professors by the minute for their expertise. For the personal touch, there will even be live two-way video links.

Much of this technology is already available. More and more businesses are holding "video-conferences" from their senior executives' desks rather than fly them across continents. Companies such as British Aerospace and Black & Decker routinely hold "face-to-face" meetings by linking offices. In Japan, teachers give live lectures by satellite to private after-school cramming clubs.

Although such technology has yet to transform the way British students learn, its effect is already being felt by academic researchers. The British Computer Library Society estimates that a student researching computing in 1983 would have had a bank of around 1,150 works to consult, but today there are more than 14,000 computing text books available. And the trend holds true across the whole academic spectrum.

The danger for higher education is that students and tutors are tempted to assimilate this vast stock of information rather than pioneer new thought. This risk has been recognised by some universities, which believe easy access to information is imperative.


No more hours in the library

The University of Tilburg in The Netherlands is pioneering a project to create a "library without walls". Information is being stored electronically, allowing easy access from across the campus.

Cranfield University, near Milton Keynes, has launched an initiative to create a "virtual library" — that is one without books. Students will eventually be able to use software to access reports and journals from across the world, rather than relying on university librarians to hunt down, order and store the texts.

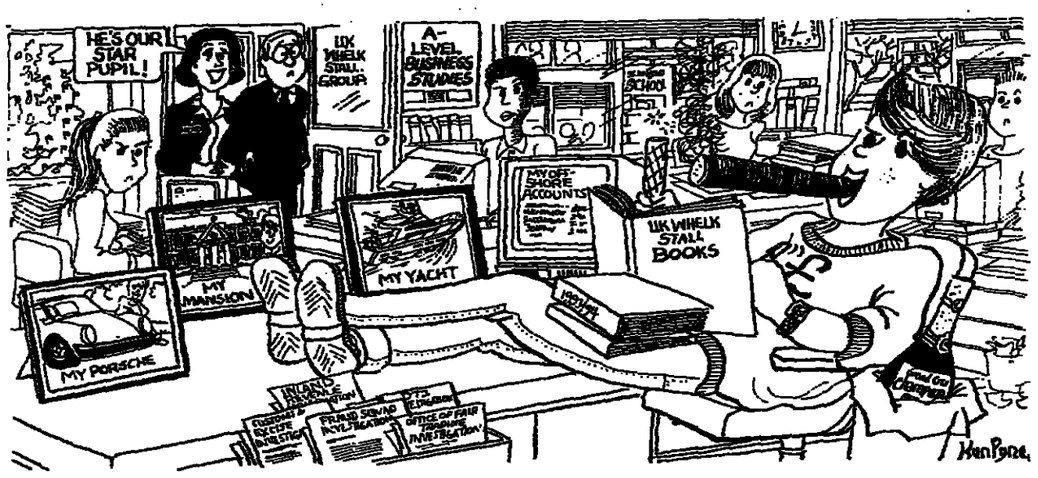
Other universities, such as Nottingham, Birmingham, Leeds, Heriot-Watt and Southampton, are also experimenting with computerised courseware. This could result in teaching being delivered by a range of electronic media, allowing students to take lectures at their own pace.

The implications for higher education are enormous. Yet, some argue British universities, bound by spending constraints, are losing out. The technology company Digital Equipment estimates current UK spending on information technology and education is around £440 million a year. But the company, in a report called "Campus of the Future", warns that most of the money is spent by individual departments without regard to an overall strategy.

John Ford, the report's author, says: "Current wisdom is that spending large sums of money on building new halls of residence is 'good' because buildings are assets. Plans to spend equivalent sums on information technology in order to change the way education is delivered are not even on the agenda. Yet these newly-acquired halls could drain university finances as the number of residential students dwindles."

BEN PRESTON

How enterprising sixth-formers are learning the economic facts of life



Mind your own business

"I HATE to say this, Spiro, but unless you do something quickly, you'll be out of business in a few months."

Spiro was surprised at his wife, Marie, making such a harsh statement. He felt his second-hand car sales business was really taking off at last.

"We'll have to put together a cash flow forecast," she said. Spiro dreaded these moments, when Maria started using words he only half understood.

IT COULD be a snatch of conversation in a soap opera, it could be real life. It is in fact Question 1 in a recent Business Studies A-level set by the Associated Examining Board. Candidates are provided with Spiro's turnover and have to help the poor chap from going bust. Unlike him, they must fully understand concepts such as "overdraft limit" and "official receiver".

Last year, 22,500 candidates took the subject at A-level, 15,000 of them with the AEB, which has offered Business Studies for 35 years. Other boards attract between 5,000 and 53 candidates. Overall, 80 per cent achieve an A-F pass, and 40 per cent manage between A and C.

"Business Studies is one of the growth areas," said Howard King of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board. "Economics seems to be receding."

As the old joke has it, in Economics they set the same questions every year; it's the answers that they change. Business Studies is a lot less abstract.

Although pupils do not literally get their hands dirty in the used-car market, they are confronted with a wide range of realistic enterprises. Those taking the London Board syllabus at Hillsyde, the sixth-form consortium of three south London comprehensives, have to start from scratch. "We've just learnt about finding a gap in the market," said Andrew Lumley, in his second term of this A-level course. "We invent our own business and they get bank managers to look at it."

"We've got them working in groups," explained Malcolm Stewart, the head of social sciences. "We are trying to get a realistic approach to business. They research a market and look at premises and equipment. One group is running a takeaway pizza place, another is running an all-woman cab service.

> "We invent our own business and bank managers have a look at it"

"The teacher's role is as a facilitator and adviser rather than as the transmitter of information. It's a very good way of building up knowledge of the business world: the language, procedures, structures — and contacts.

"Business ethics are part of the syllabus," he added. He had to remind one group, planning to run a specialist record shop, to keep their A-level on the level. They had the idea of selling bootleg products.

Yet one question from the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate explores the borderline between legal and illegal activities. A brewery has to cope with the attentions of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the resignation of its chief executive. Furthermore, an intercepted conversation over a car telephone leads to a fall in the share price and, to cap it all, the former paratrooper running one of its pubs breaks both the arms of a customer who came at him with a broken glass.

Although Mr and Mrs Smith at Nature's Knitwear are much smaller beer, they, too, have tough decisions to make, in particular over the quiet period of the year when sales of their organic sweaters plummet: should they open on Sundays and risk a 50 per cent chance of a fine?

THE AEB also poses an ethical problem: "The Dumpit Corporation is a major local employer which processes low-level toxic waste. The directors are considering new plant to process high-grade — and therefore more dangerous — waste products." Candidates must outline the different sorts of waste liable to hit the fan if Dumpit goes ahead.

The Industrial Society is involved with AEB's Business Studies course. Roger Opie, head of education, said: "It is particularly relevant at the moment as a bridge subject between the academic and the vocational. My plea is that the subject is recognised not just by employers, but as an access route into further education. I'm not sure it makes people more streetwise", Mr Opie admitted, "but it brings entrepreneurial skills to the surface".

However, there is no guarantee that business studies will turn a sixth-former into another Richard Branson.

JONATHAN SALE

Discipline the parents first

Good order cannot be maintained if parents are too ready to challenge the authority of a head

Last week's MORI poll on parents' reasons for choosing independent schools had "good discipline" in its accustomed place near the top of the list. Yet, judging by the experiences of some of my colleagues in the Headmasters' Conference, some parents regard good discipline as exercising strict control over other children while overlooking the serious misdemeanours of their own.

It does not surprise heads that they are expected to exercise the wisdom of Solomon in their judgments, but even Solomon was not subjected to a series of appeals after he made his decisions. There was a time when parents accepted the decisions of those to whom they entrusted their children. Nowadays, they are encouraged to challenge professional judgements, to bring matters before the governors and even to put their case before solicitors.

The Government has rightly accepted good discipline as a high priority in its efforts to improve schools. Its much-publicised programme for cutting truancy is just part of this. However, the emphasis in the Parents' Charter on "parents knowing better than our mostly excellent teachers" and on measures to bring governors more and more into the day-to-day running of schools have not added to the authority that heads rely on to promote high standards of discipline.

When pupils are expelled, the implication is that discipline in the school must be poor and that the head must have behaved in an arbitrary and autocratic manner. The truth, however, is that only in the most exceptional of circumstances are children dismissed. Obviously, in cases of violence against other children or a teacher, you would expect nothing less. But in most instances of exclusion, the pupil has a long history of flouting school rules or even the law. The whole gamut of counselling, cajoling, encouragement and punishment will have been tried.

School rules are designed to promote good discipline, and to create a safe and pleasant environment within which children can be properly educated. Pupils and parents know these rules; indeed, they usually sign their acceptance of them.

Would anyone doubt the wisdom of stringent rules against drugs, including possession as well as consumption and dealing? All schools make it clear that breaking this rule will lead to expulsion. If a "second chance" philosophy prevails, or if some drugs are regarded as more acceptable than others, it won't be long before schools introduce American-style "smoking zones" where anything goes.

When it comes to sexual activity, parents often expect schools to exercise a control over their children which they have failed to exercise themselves. While some children in day schools find there are few restrictions, coeducational boarding schools are expected to maintain strict standards. However, where action is taken to punish those who seriously transgress the rules, heads cannot always be sure of the understanding of the parents involved.

VIEWPOINT


Vivian Anthony

In all these matters, schools are expected to maintain standards that others in society have abandoned. The time is ripe for a new Parents' Charter, one which stresses parents' responsibilities and the importance of their support for the school. Discipline cannot be maintained if parents appeal against every decision.

The time-consuming appeals systems which operate in the maintained sector add greatly to the workload and stress of the head and senior teachers. Last week, a headmaster showed me a file of more than 100 pages on just one exclusion. The many hours taken up by these processes could have been used to improve the education of more law-abiding pupils.

Moreover, it is difficult to understand how those on appeal committees — who do not know the pupils, the parents or the circumstances of the school — are in a better position than the head to make such judgments.

Governors of independent schools take great care over the appointment of their headmasters so that decisions relating to the day-to-day running can be delegated to them. It is good that in all but exceptional cases the head can rely on the governors to support whatever action is taken. Long may this continue.

● *Vivian Anthony, the secretary of the Headmasters' Conference, was Headmaster of Colfe's School from 1976-1990.*

Employment Appeal Tribunal | Law Report February 14 1994 | Chancery Division

Reason for sale of business

Longden and Another v Ferrari and Kennedy International Ltd

Before Mr Justice Mummery, Ms S. Corby and Mr T. Thomas

[Judgment January 21]

Two employees could not claim that they had not been unfairly dismissed as a result of the sale of their employers' business by admininistrative receivers since the sale was not effected by the series of transactions leading up to their dismissals but by a single sale of assets agreement nearly two weeks later.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when construing regulations 3(4) and 5(3) of the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (SI 1981 No 1794) and dismissing appeals by Mrs Rosemary Longden and Mr John Paisley.

In June 1992, a Bristol industrial tribunal had dismissed their claims for compensation for unfair dismissal against their previous employers, Ferrari Ltd. and the company to which the business was transferred, Kennedy International Ltd.

Regulation 3(4) of the 1981 Regulations provides: "It is hereby declared that a transfer of an undertaking or part of one may be effected by a series of two or more transactions between the same parties, but in determining whether or not such a series constitutes a single transfer regard shall be had to the extent to which the undertaking or part as controlled by the transferor and transferee respectively before the last transaction, to the lapse of time between each of the transactions, to the intention of the parties and to all the other circumstances."

Regulation 5(3) provides: "Any reference ... to a person employed in an undertaking or part of one transferred by a relevant transfer is a reference to a person so employed immediately before the transfer, including, where the transfer is effected by a series of two or more transactions, a person so employed immediately before any of those transactions."

By regulation 8(1) an employee was to be treated as unfairly dismissed if the transfer was the reason for the dismissal.

Mr Richard Calland for the applicants; Mr Hugh Jackson for Kennedy International; Ferrari did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE MUMMERY said that the point raised was of general importance. Both the applicants had been employees of Ferrari in one of its divisions. In spring 1991 Ferrari fell into grave financial difficulties and on March 7, 1991 administrative receivers were appointed.

The relevant events took place between March 7 and April 10 when a receivership sale of assets agreement was entered into between the receivers and Kennedy. The crucial question was whether anything happened during that period which the tribunal should have held to be a series of two or more transactions by which the transfer of the undertaking was effected.

On March 14, the managing director of Kennedy contacted the receivers with a view to a possible purchase of some of Ferrari's undertakings. Negotiations proceeded and on March 26 the receivers solicitors faxed a letter headed "subject to contract" and attached a draft contract relating to the sale of certain of Ferrari's assets.

On March 27 Kennedy agreed to pay the receivers £4,000 to enable Ferrari to keep "ticking over" for another week and on March 28 the receivers dismissed all those employees not specifically earmarked as essential to retain. Negotiations resulted in the sale agreement dated April 10.

The industrial tribunal considered the applicants' submission that although the agreement for sale was signed on April 10 the actual transfer was effected by a series of transactions. The tribunal's view was that the transfer was effected by the agreement on April 10. It followed that the applicants were not employed in the undertaking of Ferrari immediately before the transfer of the undertaking.

The appeal tribunal considered that there was no error of law in the tribunal's decision. Even assuming in the applicants' favour that the events of March 26 and 27 formed a series of two transactions, the crucial question was whether the transfer was "effected by a series of two or more transactions".

But what happened on March 26 and 27 and other dates before April 10 was a succession of events causally linked to one another and to the conclusion of the sale of assets agreement. That was not sufficient. The language of the regulations required that the transfer was "effected" by the transactions.

The tribunal were agreed that the industrial tribunal was correct in holding that neither applicant was employed by Ferrari immediately before the transfer.

The majority of the appeal tribunal agreed that neither applicant had been unfairly dismissed by Ferrari because the transfer was not the reason for the dismissals as required by regulation 8(1). The reason was financial constraints on Ferrari.

The appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors: T. Owen, Calne; Clifton Ingram, Wokingham.

Registration without ownership

Loudoun Manufacturing Co Ltd and Another v Courtaulds plc (trading as John Lean and Sons)

Before Mr Justice Aldous

[Judgment January 18]

An applicant for the registration of a trade mark under section 17(1) of the Trade Marks Act 1938 need not have a proprietary claim to it which, on challenge, he could substantiate: it is enough if he had a *bona fide* claim.

Mr Justice Aldous so held in the Chancery Division, in affirming the rejection, by the assistant registrar, of opposition by Loudoun Valley Manufacturing Ltd and Ast Enterprises Ltd to applications by Courtaulds plc for entries of a mark comprising a box containing Arabic characters, under class 24 in respect of "textile piece goods ... for making into headshawls" and class 25 in respect of "headshawls".

Section 17 provides: "(1) Any person claiming to be the proprietor of a trade mark used or proposed to be used by him ... must apply in writing to the Registrar in the prescribed manner for registration either in Part A or Part B of the Register."

Mr Hugh Laddie, QC and Mr Martin Howe for the opponents; Mr John Baldwin, QC and Miss Mary Vitoria for Courtaulds.

MR JUSTICE ALDOUS said that John Lean and Sons had originally sold their top quality headshawls to a Mr Al Bassam, whose sales in Saudi Arabia had since about 1965 been handled by a Mr Alajlan and his sons.

They, concerned about imitations, had in the early 1970s agreed with John Lean that they would prepare a rubber stamp, identical with the mark in issue, for use on John Lean's headshawls, all of which had since then been supplied to the Alajlans. The Arabic words constituting the mark were translated as "Headshawl Al Bassam original English".

The opponents contended that Courtaulds were not entitled to register the mark, because it belonged to the Alajlans. Courtaulds claimed to be its proprietor but went further, submitting that section 17 was not concerned with who was its true proprietor: it only required an applicant to have a *bona fide* claim to be registered.

In order to resolve that issue, and to decide what was the proprietary right in question, it was necessary to go back to the position before the Trade Marks Act 1875.

That a trade mark was a species of incorporeal property had been established in *Millington v Fox* ((1838) 3 My & Cr 338): its characteristics included a right to restrain others from using the mark and also incapacity to exist dissociated from the goodwill of a business: see *General Electric Co (of USA) v General Electric Co Ltd* ([1971] 1 WLR 729, 741) where Lord Diplock pointed out that the 1875 Act "did not itself create any right of property in trade marks ... it simply provided for [their] registration and spelled out the consequences of registration and non-registration upon the proprietary rights of the owner and the remedies available to him for [their] protection."

That Act had not contained any section equivalent to section 17 of the 1938 Act: that had awaited the 1883 Act, as amended in 1888.

For the first time, the 1883 Act contemplated the registration of unused marks, even though no property right in them could be claimed. To make the provisions consistent, section 75 had enacted that "Application for registration ... shall be deemed to be equivalent to public use of the trade mark, and the date of application shall ... be deemed to be ... the date of registration."

Section 12(1) of the Trade Marks Act 1905 was for all relevant purposes in the same form as section 17(1) of the 1938 Act: however, there was no deeming provision equivalent to section 75 of the 1883 Act. Under the 1905 Act it was contemplated that applicants would apply for registration of unused marks: clearly Parliament intended that the procedure for application and the power of the Registrar to register trade marks would be the same under section 12 as it had been under section 62 of the 1883 Act, although it was not thought necessary to provide that the application should be deemed to constitute use.

Thus section 12 reflected the real position: the Registrar could register a mark provided only that the applicant had a *bona fide* claim to be registered as the proprietor.

Since the opponents had not suggested that Courtaulds did not honestly believe it had a good claim to be registered, their submission on that issue had to fail.

As to the nature of the proprietary right in a mark, his Lordship:

I believed that Mr Justice Lloyd-Jacob, in *Vitamins Ltd's Application for a Trade Mark* ([1956] RPC 1) was mistaken in suggesting that such a right could be obtained by origination: there had never been any property in an unused mark until it had been used, deemed to be used, or registered. Even so, it might have been correct, in that case, to take account of the facts when exercising the discretion given by the 1938 Act:

2 regarded the decision of Mr Justice Cross in *'Rawhide' Trade Mark* ([1962] RPC 133) as consistent with his own view of section 17(1):

3 cited the decision of the same judge in *'Genette' Trade Mark* ([1968] RPC 148), where, distinguishing the *Vitamins* case and *Brown Shoe Co Inc's Application* ([1959] RPC 29) and reversing the decision of the assistant registrar, he held that the applicants were entitled to registration on the ground that their claim was *bona fide*;

4 dissented from *obiter dicta* by Mr Justice Whitford in *'Karo Step' Trade Mark* ([1977] RPC 255) to the effect that "the applicant must be able to claim that he is entitled to be registered as proprietor of a mark in which he has a proprietary interest, in the sense that he has an absolute right to use it" and that any such claim must be bad "if in fact, on copyright grounds, some third person is going to be in a position to stop the applicant using the mark at all".

Solicitors: Morrison Skirrow; Freshfields.

When judicial intervention can be justified

Regina v Whybrow
Regina v Saunders

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice French and Mr Justice Pill

[Reasons January 21]

A Royal Commission's recommendation to judges to become more interventionist so as to prevent trials becoming protracted was supported by the Court of Appeal when giving reasons for having (i) quashed convictions and (ii) ordered a re-trial and (iii) admitted two appellants to bail because the trial judge's interventions went far beyond the bounds of legitimate judicial conduct during their evidence.

The appeals were brought by Susan Whybrow and Dennis Richard Saunders against conviction at Norwich Crown Court before Mr Justice Ian Kennedy and a jury of conspiracy to murder her husband by making it look as if there had been an accident by his tractor-style lawnmower tilting over, either crushing him or causing him to fall into a pond and drown.

They pleaded guilty to counts of conspiracy to cause him grievous bodily harm and kidnapping him.

Whybrow had been sentenced to eight years imprisonment and Saunders to 10 years on the conspiracy to murder, with concurrent sentences of one year on each of the other counts.

Mr Julian Bevan, QC and Mr Ian Croxford, QC for Whybrow; Mr Rock Tansey, QC and Mr Philip Statman for Saunders; Mr J. Charles Kellett for the prosecution.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the reserved reasons of the court, said that the sole ground of appeal developed on behalf of each of the appellants was that they did not have a fair trial because of the conduct of the judge.

It was complained that he descended into the arena, prevented each of the appellants from giving evidence-in-chief properly and intervened with such frequency and hostility throughout their evidence as to deny them a fair hearing and convey to the jury his disbelief of their evidence.

His Lordship referred to *R v Hulusi* ((1973) 58 Cr App R 378) and *R v Matthews* ((1983) 78 Cr App R 23), reviewed the events of the trial and said that Lordships were satisfied that the judge's interventions went far beyond the bounds of legitimate judicial conduct.

Their Lordships wished to make clear that there were, of course, circumstances in which and purposes for which it was entirely appropriate for a judge to intervene during the evidence.

If a witness gave an ambiguous answer, the judge should have it clarified as briefly as possible. If the answer was long or the judge did not hear it clearly, he could certainly have it repeated for the purposes of his note.

Furthermore, *The Royal Commission on Criminal Justice Report* (Cm 2263 (1993) p19) recommended that judges should be more interventionist so as to prevent trials becoming protracted.

Their Lordships entirely supported that recommendation.

Judges should intervene to curb prolixity and repetition and to exclude irrelevance, discursiveness and oppression of witnesses.

But all that was a far cry from what occurred here, where experienced counsel were seeking to do their duty without hesitation, deviation or repetition.

It was apposite to quote from the judgment of Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce in *R v Gunning* (unreported, July 7, 1980 CA):

"The judge is not an advocate. Under the English and Welsh system of criminal trials he is much more like the umpire at a cricket match.

"He is certainly not the bowler, whose business is to get the batsman out.

"If a judge, without any conscious intention to be unfair, descends into the forum and asks great numbers of pointed questions of the accused when he is giving his evidence-in-chief, the jury may very well get the impression that the judge does not believe a word that the witness is saying and by putting these pointed questions, to which there is sometimes only a lame answer, he blows the evidence out of the water during the stage that counsel ought to be having the opportunity to bring the evidence of the accused to the attention of the jury in its most impressive pattern and shape.

"The importance of counsel having that opportunity is not diminished, indeed it is enhanced, if the evidence emerging in chief is a story that takes a bit of swallowing."

Their Lordships would stress that final sentence.

Solicitors: Kingsley Napley; Simons Muirhead & Burton; Crown Prosecution Service, Ipswich.

Price ticket discrepancy

Toys 'R' Us v Gloucestershire County Council

Before Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Scott Baker

[Judgment February 3]

Where there was a discrepancy between the ticket price displayed on an item in a shop and the price disclosed by the bar code reader, and the cashier, following shop policy, applied the lower ticket price, no offence was committed under section 20(1) of the Consumer Protection Act 1987.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when allowing an appeal by way of case stated of Toys 'R' Us against their conviction by Gloucester Justices on 34 informations alleging breaches under section 20(1) of 1987 Act.

Section 20 of the 1987 Act provides: "(1) ... a person shall be guilty of an offence, if in the course of any business of his, he gives (by any means whatever) to any consumers an indication which is misleading as to the price at which any goods, services, accommodation or facilities are available (whether generally or from particular persons)."

Mr Duncan Matheson, QC and Mr Trevor Burke for the appellant; Mr Colman Treacy, QC and Mr Barry Berlin for Gloucester County Council.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY said that the magistrates had not directed their minds to the fact that the appellant had a policy which required cashiers to check the price ticket on any item after they had scanned the bar code and revealed a price for the item at the cash till.

If the cashiers found a price on the ticket lower than the price displayed on the till, they were instructed to charge the lower price.

Mr Treacy was correct in his submission that, for the purposes of section 20(1), the relevant time to ascertain the price at which the goods were available was the time at which the indication as to price was given. In this case, that was when an item was on the shelf with a ticket attached to it. The wording of the section and the authority relied upon by Mr Treacy, *Doble v David Greig Ltd* ([1972] 1 WLR 703), supported that.

In order to satisfy the requirements of section 20(1) it was not necessary to ascertain the correct price of an item.

The justices had departed in error from the statute which simply required the ascertainment of the price at which the goods were available, bearing in mind that the price was defined in section 20(6) as the sum "required to be paid by a consumer".

The price was ascertainable by reading the price ticket and was not conditional upon whether or not the cashier or customer noticed the discrepancy.

His Lordship said that since the appellant operated a policy of charging the ticket price, the justices should have started from the standpoint that an offence under section 20(1) could only be established if it could be shown that, despite the policy, in reality goods were not available at the ticket price.

In other words, the cashiers and customers did not notice discrepancies and correct them or cause them to be corrected.

If that was what the evidence showed, it would be open to the court to find that, even when goods were on the shelf, the goods were not in fact available at the ticket price and the price shown on the ticket was misleading because it was less than it in fact was.

In the context of the present case a trading standards officer examining identical articles for sale which bore different prices on their price tickets could call for the current price list in relation to those items, whether it be in documentary form or on a computer.

Under section 28 he had authority to make a test purchase but there was nothing in the statute authorising him to require that a till be closed down and made available for his use when scanning items.

Mr Justice Scott Baker agreed.

Solicitors: Shoosmiths & Harrison; Mr Ian Wotherspoon, Gloucester.

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by NICK DAWS
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OPERA page 38
Tim Albery, in charge of the first British staging of Massenet's ball of candyfloss, Chérubin

ARTS

BOOKS page 39
Henry Roth, the nonagenarian American who took 60 years to write his magnum opus



Haunted by a new kind of hero

Roger Boyes on the Spielberg film that is helping to open German eyes to the Holocaust



Oskar Schindler (Liam Neeson, right) discusses the fate of Jewish workers with labour-camp commandant Amon Goeth (Ralph Fiennes) in *Schindler's List*

Oskar Schindler is a hero. Israel says so and those saved by him, the so-called Schindler Jews, agree. His former secretary is convinced, and so too is Hollywood. But is he a *German* hero?

Steven Spielberg's film, not due in Germany until March, has already opened up a raw debate. Why is it, asks *Die Zeit* newspaper, that Hollywood has to teach Germans their own history?

Schindler's List is the second major fictional treatment of the Holocaust to appear on German screens. The first — the American mini-series *Holocaust* — sent Germans into an emotional spin. That was in 1979. Since then much has happened: the two German states have melted into one (perhaps collided is a more precise word), there have been furious intellectual exchanges about German collective responsibility for Hitler and Nazi war crimes. And neo-Nazi groups have gained a firm foothold in the political system — many of them denying that Auschwitz was ever a scene of mass murder. Hollywood, in other words, is about to educate yet another generation of Germans about Auschwitz.

It is worth recalling the *Holocaust* series because it marks a kind of watershed. Other Europeans either shrugged it off — the saga followed the lives of a Jewish family from Berlin to Warsaw and on to Auschwitz — as sickly sentimental or sentimentally sick. In Germany, though, it launched thousands of anguished conversations in pubs, living rooms and schools. Some 32 per cent of West Germans watched the first episode, but by the fifth instalment 47 per cent tuned in.

It was not the novelty of the information that drew this strong response. Between 1946 and 1979 German television viewers watched almost 50 documentaries on the Holocaust. Some of the productions were of remarkable quality. Eberhard Fechner's *Majdanek* and Erwin Leiser's *Eichmann und das dritte Reich* were models of engaged yet honest reportage. Moreover, the German school curriculum included compulsory visits to the nearest former concentration camp and classroom discussions about Nazi victims. Every German adult should know, at least in a bookish way, the brute facts about the camps.

The missing element was personal identification. Few Germans know Jews nowadays; the Jewish community is a small one, a fraction of its pre-1933 size. It was difficult, therefore, for Germans to make the imaginative leap of identification with the victim. Jews were Jews, strange and remote. Even now, a new comic strip biography of Hitler, designed for schoolchildren, depicts murdered Jews with pale, anonymous faces. The need to build a bridge between a fresh generation, half a century distant from the crimes, and the victims prompted the directors of the American Holocaust Museum to introduce a radically different approach: each museum visitor adopts a real victim and follows the appropriate biography to the end of the exhibition.

Schindler's List deploys similar tools to break through the wall of indifference. The mini-series addressed older Germans who, by the late 1970s, wanted to hear no more; and bored younger Germans who were beginning to argue that the fault lay not with them but with their parents' generation.

Spielberg's film arrives at a different moment in German history. East German children — now an integral part of German society — were not given a sense of collective guilt. Nor did history lessons even begin to resemble those in the West whereby the pupil is taken across a spectrum starting from German unity in 1871, through the first world war, to Hitler and on to the modern post-war state. As far as communist schools were concerned, the Nazi years were part of West and not East German history. Spielberg's film is likely to sew some doubts, wake up a few teenagers, contribute in its way to the psychological unification of east and west.

Hollywood's talent for personalising catastrophe is all too clear in the Spielberg film. A small girl in a red coat — the only flash of colour in the black-and-white film — points the finger, performing the technical trick of the Holocaust Museum. But the chief shake-up of the film for German viewers will be the depiction of Schindler.

Spielberg's film has been described as his most mature (a double-edged compliment). Its maturity stems not only from the seriousness of the subject-matter, but from his betrayal of the hero. Modern Hollywood heroes, certainly Spielberg's, are good guys who box their way out of difficult situations or who overcome physical and psychological hurdles to win love or respect or regain honour. Schindler, by contrast, is a drunkard, gambler, cheat, liar and womaniser. He uses these same weaknesses to pursue a morally distinctive goal; he drinks with Nazis to free Jews, he gambles, cheats and lies to save lives. The departure for Spielberg is plain: a bad, or at least weak, man who does good (admitting the possibility of a "good" man capable of doing bad, the ultimate Hollywood heresy).

For Germans, this is more than an interesting career development for Spielberg. Good Germans have been cast in a certain mould. Platoons of West German historians have built up a biographical dossier of the good German whose brave conduct and moral astuteness was supposed to show that clear moral choices could and should be made in war or crisis.

There was Count Stauffenberg, the war-wounded colonel who almost succeeded in blowing up Hitler in July 1944; and there were his many co-conspirators, all strung up on meat hooks by Hitler. There were the Munich students, Hans and Sophie Scholl, who formed the small, doomed White Rose resistance group. There were courageous priests and some doughty communist oppositionists. Yet these heroes and heroines often appear remote for modern Germany: either emerging as near saints or, as in the case of the July 1944 plotters, aristocratic officers playing their own political game. Schindler does not conform to the pattern. He was a cad who performed nobly, a man who quite unexpectedly made the right choices.

Little wonder, then, that Schindler, awarded for his bravery by other countries, was ignored in Germany. After returning from South America to live in Frankfurt, he dabbled unsuccessfully in business. In 1974 he died in the city, poor and neglected. Until this year, not a single monument was erected to him and not a single street bore his name. Prodded by the film (rather than Thomas Keneally's book, which made little popular impact in Germany), Frankfurt city council has now unveiled an Oskar Schindler Strasse. It is a small, shabby street, difficult to find.

Reporters have tracked down Schindler's former secretary, Elisabeth Tont, who supports Spielberg's picture of the man. But she remembers he always had a slippery reputation in his home town. "Even after the war," she said in an interview, "they didn't really believe that he did good things. They said, for example, that the Jews bribed him with money and all imaginable things. But, you know, it was actually the poorest of the Jews that he helped — at that stage of the war they had nothing to give."

Thus Hollywood is helping to open some eyes in Germany. Perhaps in a way it is a crude recompense for the decades of monacled, heel-clicking SS men who have invaded German cinemas and television over the years: a subtle German war hero to replace the caricatured villain peddled by countless American films.

Still, the question nags: why should this insight arrive from abroad and not be home-baked? There *have* been German-made war films. Wolfgang Petersen (later to make *In the Line of Fire*) made his name with *Das Boot*, the adventure of an embattled submarine crew, and Joseph Vilsmaier directed *Stalingrad*, which drew about 1.5 million German cinemagoers last year. Yet both films end up casting the Germans as victims — of the superior officers, of war, of history — rather than heroes.

The essentially passive approach remains. Germany's war history is untouchable for German feature film-makers. Germany is in the throes of rediscovering, perhaps even reinventing, its recent history. It is caught somewhere in limbo between old taboos and new idea's. Film-makers usually thrive in such a borderland. Not Germans, though: not yet. Auschwitz looms so large that it has become invisible.

THEATRE: The Middle East provides a new setting for Beckett

Accent on despair

Waiting for Godot
Lyric Studio, Hammersmith

TRISTRAM KENTON



Kevork Malikyan, left, and Nadim Sawalha in Godot

Oppressed Romania yesterday, beleaguered Sarajevo today, and no doubt somewhere else tomorrow. Beckett's *Godot* may be about mankind's perverse passion for castles in the air and pie in the sky, but it is a play that can also take on more particular meanings, depending on who performs it, where and when.

That was pretty obviously so on the famous occasion in 1957 when the play was staged by prisoners at San Quentin in California. It was also so when John Kani and Winston Ntshone brought it to London from South Africa some 15 years ago: two tattered blacks who had "lost their rights" haplessly waiting in the dirt for a saviour. What, then, were we to expect from Efendi Productions, a new company which hopes to "strengthen the cultural bridge between the Levantors and their neighbours in southern and western Europe"? A Palestinian, Lebanese or Kurdish *Godot*, a sort of Waiting for Boutros-Ghali?

Well, conceivably. The main actors both have Middle Eastern roots and affect a Middle Eastern look, Nadim Sawalha's Vladimir wearing a long blue robe over his filthy vest, Kevork Malikyan's Estragon a grubby white smock and black waistcoat. Beside them is the "low mound" Beckett's stage directions specify; but it consists of baked clay with shards sticking out of its top and hieroglyphics carved into the antique bricks below. Moreover, director Lisa Forrell has cut Estragon's claim that he is unluckier than Christ, who lived in a warm, dry climate and was "crucified quick". Countries don't come much hotter or more arid than the one on show here.

Yet the actors seem oddly unaffected by the years they have presumably been stuck in this punishing hole. It is not just that Vladimir's hands looked as clean as a baby's on the first night, while Estragon's "stinking" feet seemed just to have emerged from a bubble-bath. Though Sawalha achieves a fine gravity at the end, he and his fellow tramp fail to embody the exhaustion, pain and desperation behind the chatter and the clownishness. Indeed, Malikyan becomes positively jaunty in the second act, in defiance of a text that shows him to be far the more negative and self-pitying of the two.

The production lifts with the appearance of Bruce Purchase's Pozzo and Ben Daniels's Lucky, though the latter is oddly cast. That long, fractured outpouring of despair should surely be an old man's requiem for humanity, not an accusing rant from the kind of pale, ill-fed young man you nowadays see squatting with his dog beneath Waterloo Bridge. But Purchase's blimp-in-the-tropics ("Do I lyook like a nyan who can be myade to suffah, frenkly?") extends the play without distorting the role. The Levant may still await its Godot, but it has seen more than enough of smug, domineering men from the West.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

TELEVISION REVIEW

Fresh face but same old stuff

ALL last week the rabloids charted the fever of anticipation sweeping the nation. A breakfast television presenter called Chris Evans was to be paid £1.3 million to host the thing. Because the first pilot programme was so dire, Channel 4 spent an estimated £400,000 on three more pilots. A "commissioning editor for youth television" declared that one, or possibly even two, of the pilots was actually of broadcastable quality. Reassuring news indeed.

Meanwhile, some genius at Channel 4 announced that the show would have a "20th-century musical icon" appearing each week. An unfortunate claim, that. The first of these giants of popular song, it later emerged, was Sandie Shaw, a lady who achieved 15 minutes of fame 30 years ago for singing without shoes on. What were those pilot programmes for? Certainly not for fine-tuning some brilliantly original new broadcasting concept. When **Don't Forget Your Toothbrush** finally came on air on Saturday night, it seemed much like every other game show since television began.

> "It was like a Club 18-30 holiday without the bonking"

There was an audience that cheered and whooped without visible means of stimulation. There was a fast-talking, cheekie-chappie host. There was a set design of awesomely lurid tackiness. And, perhaps most important of all, there was a ritual embarrassment of unsuspecting members of the public. Humiliation disguised as fun is clearly now an essential ingredient of popular TV, from *Beadle's About* to *Noel's House Party*.

All right, one could argue that the punters deserve it for agreeing to appear. But one had to feel sorry for the young lady from Highgate, plucked out of the audience and forced by the overbearing Evans to share with millions the knowledge that she was £700 in debt to her bank and she had just been jilted by her boyfriend. She was then coaxed into kissing a stranger for 30 seconds in order to win £1,000.

That was one sideshow. Another was a quiz contest between Sandie Shaw and her greatest fan on the subject of Ms Shaw's career; the fan won, naturally. Finally came the main event: the selection of the couple who would win a week in Mauritius, starting there and then (hence the programme's title). The whole show was frantic, loud and unremittingly jolly — like a Club 18-30 holiday without the bonking. And what is the point of a Club 18-30 holiday without bonking?

Because it was on Channel 4, one somehow expected it to be a shade more sophisticated, more deconstructed, more ironic than a straightforward ratings-grabber such as *Blind Date*. But Channel 4 these days has to scrabble for audience figures like any other network. As for Evans — the "hottest property on television", according to the media pundits — he seems about to cast himself as the Bruce Forsyth of the 1990s. The man undoubtedly has talent; is this really what he wants?

RICHARD MORRISON

ROCK: A vocalist who gets by without singing a note

Poetry in rare motion

The Blue Aeroplanes
Grand, Clapham

NOW that Radio 1 is broadcasting poetry readings, will it find time to feature the Blue Aeroplanes more often? For, although many lyric writers like to think of themselves as poets, there has never been another rock group which revolves around a person actually reciting long stretches of verse as opposed to singing verses and choruses.

Gerard Langley is that man. He comes from Bristol and has presided as vocalist over the ever-changing line-up of the Blue Aeroplanes for nearly a decade without singing a note. A dark-haired figure of medium build and nondescript features — apart from an ever-present pair of beatnik-issue shades — Langley sounds as if he should be standing behind a lectern on stage or, at the very least, referring to a script of some sort.

But not only does he memorise the loquacious, stream-of-consciousness outpourings which lend the group's music its peculiarly haunting identity, in performance he even behaves like a rock singer, gripping the microphone stand as he wheels backwards and forwards and dropping melodramatically to the ground at moments of peak intensity.

He is supported in this by the curious figure of Wojtek Dmochowski, a "dancer" who has been an integral part of the group since its inception. Like Langley, he plays an unorthodox, non-musical role, bobbing and weaving around between musicians and monitor speakers, sometimes perilously so, yet at no time betraying any dancing or movement skills whatsoever, not even a sense of rhythm. Looking more like a Morrissey fan who breached security than anything to do with the performance, he is a constant distraction throughout.

Although Langley and his frequently inscrutable wordplay is the group's *raison d'être*, the true essence of the Blue Aeroplanes' appeal is the extraordinarily evocative weave of melody, rhythm and riff provided by the group's guitarists. These Langley seems to hire in three or four at a time and by the week. In fact, there are eight of them (including bassist Roger Power) on stage during the encore, but for the bulk of the show they manage with just the two, Rodney Allen and John Wygens, both recent recruits.

Perhaps it is finding themselves less mob-handed than in the past that persuades the band to crank up the volume to a point well beyond the optimum for their elegant, old-fashioned style of indie-rock. But whatever the reason, there is an unpleasant booming quality to the mix, and new songs like "(I'm A) Smart Drug" and "Open" sound clumpy and unfocused while even the gloriously chiming motif of "Jacket Hangs" fails to gel.

It takes their boogie-thump version of Paul Simon's "Boy In The Bubble" finally to set the crowd in motion, after which the band cruise through a tightly scripted set to finish with "Broken & Mended", "Yr Own World" and a gorgeous version of "Colour Me".

On the latter, Langley hints at strange layers of meaning ("I've paid, I'm owed ... I'm talking to you in bar code") as the song is born aloft by the twinkling interplay of guitars. Although it's a rare moment at this show, when everything works like that the effect really is poetry in motion.

DAVID SINCLAIR

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

ACID HEARTS Thomas Kell's witty tale of manipulation, sibling rivalry and urban living. Directed by Richard Georgeson, with Kieron Forsyth, Simon Hepworth and Helen Masters. **Finborough**, 118 Finborough Road, SW10 (071-373 3842). *Preview tonight*. Wed, 8pm, opens Thurs, to March 12

JAMES BOWMAN The famed countertenor is joined by the Scottish soprano **Lorna Anderson** and **The King's Consort** for a performance of Handel's arias and duets inspired by the theme of love. Robert King directs. **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800). Tonight, 7.45pm

SONG OF AN HONORARY SOULMAN The latest offering from Randy McWilliams, a runner-up in the 1992 Mobil Playwriting Competition is a *story of the darker sides of love and loyalty when obsession and overprotection take over. A first* performance for McWilliam's Smalls' Mongoose Theatre, a culturally diverse support group for black writers. **Shaw**, Euston Road, NW1 (071-388 1394). *Preview tonight* 8pm opens tomorrow 7pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm

THE NEW MENOZA. First in the Gate's season of 19th-century Age of Unreason drama. Jacob Lenz's hero is an oriental traveller trying to apply good sense to the manic crises of a small German town.

Gate, Pembridge Rd, W11 (071-229 0706). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. Opens Wed, until March 19

ELSEWHERE

BLACKPOOL. Royal Ballet's small scale **Dance Bites** initiative completes its first tour this week. Included in the repertoire are William Forsyth's big hit *Herman Schmerman*, new ballets from William Tuckett and Matthew Hart and the "white half" of Ashton's *Monotones*. The highlight, though, is Ashley Page's *Renard*, a new piece set to the Stravinsky score and designed by the bold Scottish artist Bruce McLean. **Grand Theatre**, Church Street (0253 28372). Tonight, 8pm, tomorrow, 1.30 and 8pm.

HAMPTON COURT PALACE: Storyteller Roberto Lagnado weaves his magic in the Queen's Gallery three times a day during the half-term break. Plus four different family trails, one specifically for younger children. A multi-visit ticket for the price of a standard one is available until March 27. **Information** (081-781 9500). Stones daily at 12.30, 1.30 and 2.30pm; trails from 10.30am-3.15pm. Until Feb 20

NORWICH: Puppetry and fun for children of all ages is on offer with works *from Roald Dahl, Madame Souhami* and the Green Ginger Microtheater, plus puppet making workshops in a new season of programmes from this acclaimed theatre. **Puppet Theatre**, St James, Whitefriars (0603 629921). Check box office for programme times

YEOVIL. Mike James' new musical adaptation of Henry Fielding's **Tom Jones** continues its tour. The classic raucous tale of love and lust is brought back to life for Mid Wales Touring Theatre, staged in full period costume. **Octagon Theatre**, Hereford (0935 22884). Tonight-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat 2.30 and 7.30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: All Human Life, Hulton Deutsch Collection (071-638 4141). **British Museum**: Study of Italian Old Master Drawings, Deities and Devotions Hindu art; (071-636 1555) . . . **National Portrait Gallery**: Holbein and the Court of Henry VIII (071-306 0055) . . . **National Gallery**: Claude, the Poetic Landscape (071-839 3321). **Royal Academy of Arts**: Art of the Ancient World, The Unknown Modigliani (071-439 7438). **Serpentine**: Wall to Wall (071-402 6075). . . **Tate**: Writing on the Wall: women artists (071-887 8008). **V & A**: Fabergé (071-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (071-359 4404). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Feb 16, until March 31

◪ **ME AND MAMIE O'ROURKE** French and Saunders in wretchedly lightweight US play. **Strand**, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Thurs 8pm; Fri, Sat 6pm and 8.45pm.

☐ **PERE GORIOT**. A father's self-sacrificing love for his unimpressed daughters. Geoffrey Bevers adapts and directs Balzac's great novel. **Orange Tree**, Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Feb 17 and 24, 2.30pm, Sat 4pm. Until Mar 12

☐ **PIAF**. Elaine Paige in powerful voice as the Parisian sparrow. The play itself is rather less than marvellous. **Piccadilly**, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1116). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed (Lorraine Brunning) and Sat 2pm

☐ **SEPTEMBER TIDE**. Daphne du Maurier's drama of inappropriate passion returns to the West End starring Susannah York as the decent woman in love with her son-in-law. **Comedy**, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed 3pm and Sat 4pm

◪ **THE SKRIKER**. Caryl Churchill's latest, an ancient shape-shifter (Kathryn Hunter) bursts out of the Underworld and pursues two young girls. Strange, strong stuff

National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm, mat Wed, 2.30pm.

☐ **WAITING FOR GODOT**. Beckett set in a desert in the Levant and performed by two Middle East actors. See review, page 37. **Lyric Studio**, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 8701). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, 4.30pm

◪ **WILDEST DREAMS**. Ayckbourn mixes hilarity with despair for fantasy-game addicts. **Pit**, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight and Tue, 7.15pm

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**, Phoenix (071-867 1044). ◪ **Buddy**, Victoria Palace (071-834 1317). ◪ **Carousel**, Shaftesbury (071-379 5399). ■ **Cats**, New London (071-405 0072). ■ **Crazy for You**, Prince Edward (071-734 8951). . . ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**, Duchess (071-494 5070). ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe**, Lyric (071-494 5045). ■ **Grease**, Dominion (071-580 9845). ◪ **Hot Stuff**, Cambridge (071-494 5040). ☐ **An Inspector Calls**, Aldwych (071-836 6404). ◪ **Medea**, Wyndham's (071-867 1116). . . ■ **Les Misérables**, Palace (071-434 0909). ■ **Miss Saigon**, Theatre Royal (071-494 5400). ☐ **The Mousetrap**, St Martin's (071-836 1443). ☐ **Oleanna**, Duke of York's (071-836 5122). . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**, Her Majesty's (071-494 5400). . ☐ **Relative Values**, Savoy (071-836 8888). ☐ **She Stoops to Conquer**, Queens (071-494 5041). ■ **Starlight Express**, Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665). ☐ **Sunset Boulevard**, Adelphi (071-344 0055). ☐ **Travels With My Aunt**, Whitehall (071-867 1119). . ◪ **The Woman in Black**, Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

NEW RELEASES

ETHAN FROME. Over-polite version of Edith Wharton's grim novel of thwarted love with Liam Neeson, Patricia Arquette and Joan Allen. **National Film Theatre** (071-928 3232)

◆ **FREE WILLY** (U): Tearaway kid finds his soulmate: a surly amusement park whale. Family film that aims low and hits. Simon Wincer directs. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636). **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310). **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031). **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3303). **Warner** ◪ (071-439 4343)

◆ **IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER** (15). Jim Sheridan's powerful, urgent film inspired by the Guildford Four stars Daniel Day-Lewis, Pete Postlethwaite. **MGMs: Fulham Road** ◪ (071-370 2636) (Screens 3 and 4 only). **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031). **Plaza** (0800-888 997). **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772). **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520). **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3303). **Warner** ◪ (071-439 4343)

◆ **THE THREE MUSKETEERS** (PG). Noisy, youthful and empty new version of Dumas's tale, with Kiefer Sutherland, Charlie Sheen and Chris O'Donnell. Stephen Herek directs. **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096). **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310). **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031). **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666). **Marble Arch** (0426 914591). **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332). **Warner** ◪ (071-439 4343)

CURRENT

◆ **ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES** (PG). Chaos in America's most macabre restaurant. Barry Sonnenfeld's overblown sequel, with good stretches, stars Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

Electric ◪ (071-792 3020/0328). **MGMs: Fulham Road** (071-370 2636). **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031). **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

THE AGE OF INNOCENCE (U). Scorsese's spellbinding, heartfelt version of Edith Wharton's novel about stifled love in old New York. With Daniel Day-Lewis, Michelle Pfeiffer and Winona Ryder. **Odeon Leicester Square** (0426 915683)

THE CONFORMIST (18). Bertolucci's spellbinding version of Moravia's novel about a professor sucked into 1930s Fascism, made in 1969. With Jean-Louis Trintignant, Dominique Sanda. **Everyman** ◪ (071-435 1525). **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148)

DECADENCE (18): Steven Berkoff's play about 1980s greed makes wearisome cinema. Berkoff directs, and co-stars with Joan Collins. **MGM Piccadilly** (071-437 3561)

THE FUGITIVE (12). 1960s television series roars back to life with Harrison Ford and Tommy Lee Jones, director Andrew Davis. **Warner** ◪ (071-437 4343)

◆ **MALICE** (15): Shallow, serpentine and stupefying thriller stars Alec Baldwin, Nicole Kidman and Bill Pullman's Harold Becker directs. **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096). **Haymarket** (071-839 1527). **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310). **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666). **Marble Arch** (0426 914591). **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098)

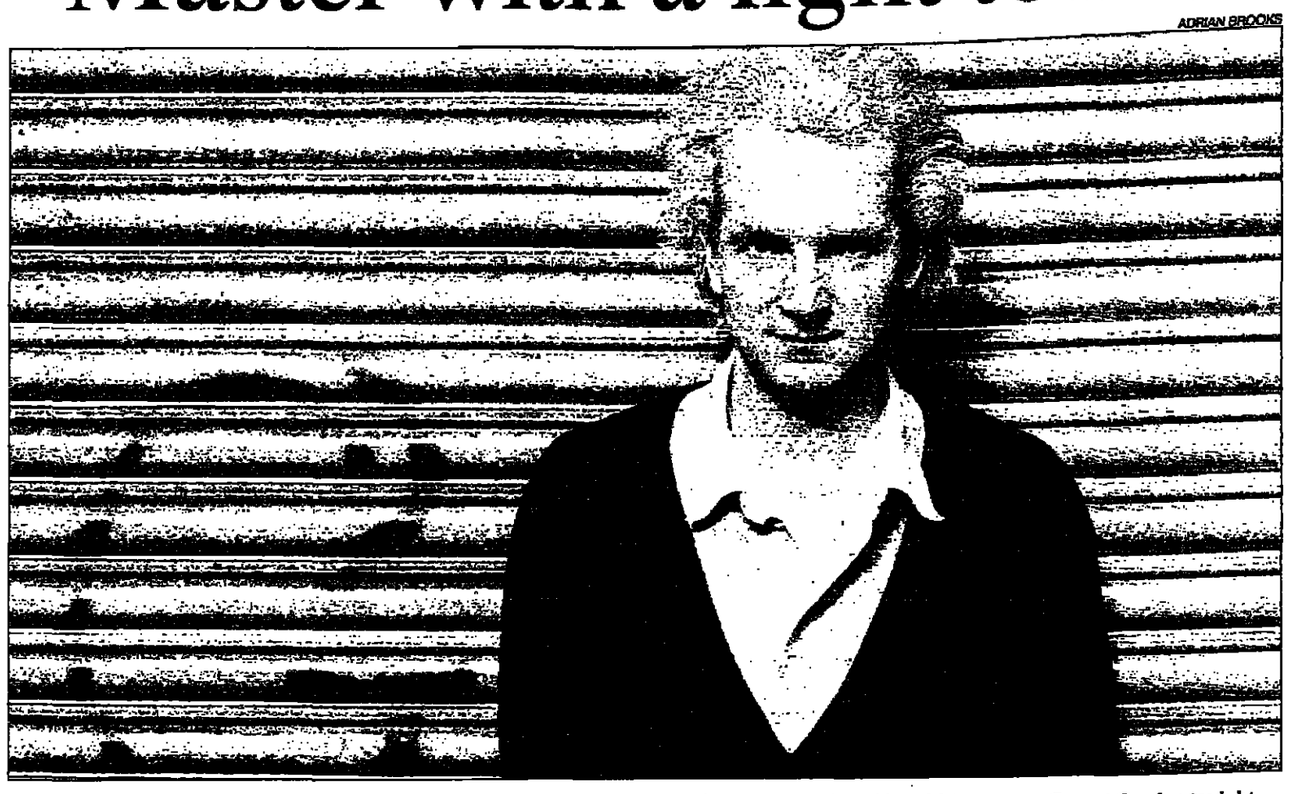
◆ **MRS DOUBTFIRE** (12). Divorced dad gets hired as the family's housekeeper. Indulgent, crude and funny vehicle for Robin Williams. With Sally Field and Pierce Brosnan. Director, Chris Columbus. **Barbican** ◪ (071-638 8891). **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096). **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310). **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (071-727 6705). **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666). **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098). **West End** (0426-915 574). **Screen/Baker** (071-935 2772). **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

◆ **TOMBSTONE** (15). Unremarkable return to the OK Corral with Kurt Russell (Wyatt Earp) and Val Kilmer (Doc Holliday). George P. Cosmatos directs. **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666). **West End** (0426-915 574). **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

◆ **WAYNE'S WORLD 2** (PG). The dude duo mount a rock concert. Stephen Surjik's silly but sweet comedy sequel stars Mike Myers and Dana Carvey. **MGMs Baker Street** (071-935 9772). **Fulham Road** ◪ (071-370 2636). **Trocadero** ◪ (071-434 0031). **Empire** ◪ (0800 568911). **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (071-792 3332)

Master with a light touch

ADRIAN BROOKS



Turning a page: Tim Albery, director of the Royal Opera's new production of Massenet's *Chérubin*, which opens at Covent Garden tonight

Massenet's operas look forward to today's musicals, says the director of the first British staging of his *Chérubin*. **Hilary Finch** reports

St Valentine's Day, 1905, Monte Carlo: Prince Albert of Monaco and his party looked down from his box at the Salle Garnier onto a packed opera house of visitors from London, Paris and Vienna. The curtain rose on a temple of love: this was the premiere of Massenet's latest opera, a "comédie chantée" which told the story of what happened to Cherubino after *The Marriage of Figaro*.

Tonight at Covent Garden, Tim Albery and his designer Antony McDonald will stage *Chérubin* for the first time in Britain. All they promise is that it will be very *pink* . . . Theirs is a marriage of true minds. They have collaborated on some of the most distinctive productions of the last decade, including Tippett's *Midsummer Marriage* and *The Trojans* for Opera North, *Billy Budd* for English National Opera, *Berenice* at the National Theatre and *Wallenstein* for the Royal Shakespeare Company. So what makes serious lads like them turn to this ball of candyfloss?

McDonald has been a convert ever since he started doing his homework, and letting the music of *Thaïs*, *Esclarmonde*, *The King of Lahore*, *Manon*, *Grisélidis* (recently at the Guildhall) and *Cendrillon* wash luxuriously around him. He is of the view that we are at last feeling ourselves free to see the music of Massenet for what it is — the precursor of the musical. Albery agrees. "Each number is very precisely cued and yes, it's very much in the vein of those American romantic comedies of the pre-war years where love is treated in a lighthearted way, where there's a tinge of melancholy, where there are problems but you know they're going to be resolved."

In the year of *Chérubin*'s premiere alone, Debussy wrote *La Mer*, Strauss was busy with *Salome*, the first Russian revolution flared up, and Freud officially founded psychoanalysis. As the avant-garde became the establishment of the 20th century, Massenet became an embarrassment. "Now, though," says Albery, "we feel we can say to hell with it, it's fun, we can do it. It's like Rattigan and Priestley — all those writers who were despised, but who are returning to popularity now because they tell us a lot about their time."

Massenet, moreover, was in his sixties when he wrote *Chérubin*, and at the height of his powers. "It's easy to knock something which functions so fantastically, because it seems too easy. But his sheer skill in turning a number is brilliant. *Chérubin* has a lightness of touch which is actually extremely difficult to achieve."

Chérubin, it seems, is also a handy candidate for a Royal Opera shoestring production, and possibly a rather better bet as such than recent unhappy attempts at cost-cutting in central repertoire like *The Magic Flute*. It doesn't have to be built to last, ideas can be whimsical, throw-away — and Albery's demand for a cast of young singers meant that relatively last-minute casting was also possible.

"And," adds McDonald, "it's a very balletic opera. Part of the score, you know, appears in Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon*. *Chérubin* has to be approached with a *physical* lightness. All the costumes are 18th-century, but based on net rather than velvet, so that stage movement can be fast and light. In fact, they're *so* lightweight, they probably won't survive until Monday!"

By happy coincidence, *Der Rosenkavalier*, that other great *Figaro*-inspired opera, written just five years after *Chérubin*, is playing down the road at English National Opera. Both trace the fortunes of the young androgynous Cherubino figure; both present one century looking long and hard at another. McDonald feels he and Albery are viewing the 18th century from a little further on in time: "perhaps from the 1920s, the world of Valentino's *Monsieur Beaucaire*, of Dufy, Matisse, and the decorative French painters of the period."

Albery feels the choice of period is a bit of a red herring in *Chérubin* anyway. "It's not like *Figaro* itself, where the social context is so much more important, simply because the relationships are so complex. *Chérubin* is so slight that the choice of period isn't really going to make the piece *resonate* in any particularly significant way. So our view of the 18th century is almost childlike, a fantasy world to live in for an hour or two."

The world of *Figaro*, though, is never far away, and Albery and McDonald have slipped in more than one cunning cross-reference. Those who have ears to hear will also be alert to Massenet's own reference to *Don Giovanni* at the end. "Yes, it's to tell you where Cherubino is heading for. There *is* a slight sting in the tail."

● Chérubin *opens at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (071-240 1911) tonight at 7.30pm*

DANCE: William Louther back on the London stage

Prophet with honour

Elijah
The Place

I WOULD never have guessed without looking it up, but 20 years have gone by since the performances which made William Louther one of the brightest dance stars on the British stage. For a decade or more — in visiting seasons by the Martha Graham and Alvin Ailey companies, or heading a show at the Aldwych Theatre, and with London Contemporary Dance Theatre and Maxwell Davies's Fires of London — he danced with a vivid expressiveness and sheer physical beauty that remained clear and fresh in the memory.

Then, still younger than Mukhamedov is now, health problems made Louther drop out of sight. So his return to the London stage last week was quite an occasion. Just turned 52, he cast himself in the title role of *Elijah*, a two-act production for his own Dance and Theatre Corporation.

He has concentrated on the prophet's banishment in the desert, the raising of the widow's son from death, and the defeat of Jezebel and Ahab through a (freely adapted) confrontation over a sacrifice. If the narrative line is not always clear, the same could be said of the story in the Book of Kings.

Before his structuring of the work, Louther seems to have looked back to what he learnt from Graham: separate incisive confrontations advance the action, set within lively dance episodes and preceded by a long prologue ostensibly to introduce the characters but also to let them show off their prowess at length.

His own role is provided with an alter ego in the person of Ian Stuart, whose echoing of Louther's movement is at a slight remove from the real thing, but whose real purpose is to provide Elijah's voice with the aid of various woodwind instruments. Not that Louther exempts himself from the general requirement of the cast to sing at times as well as dance. His tone proves more forceful than tuneful, but some of the others do pretty well, and Barbara Van Praag (courtesy of Opera Workshop) makes an entry with an aria from Mendelssohn's Oratorio as an interlude in the specially composed score for piano and drums by Roland Segun.

Yolanda Pepper's widow is appealingly done; otherwise the men tend to have the edge on the women in a generally skilled, lively and eager cast. Louther himself mainly provides a still centre focusing the activity, but he has kept his old compelling presence, and when he is pulled into a celebratory dance after the first miracle there is still a sweetness in his smiling manner that turns back the years.

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Christopher Hawtree on a nonagenarian American who has taken 60 years to write his six-volume magnum opus

It's never too late

A writer is free from the dictates of a career plan. Even so, never can there have been as lengthy a gestation as that of *Mercy of A Rude Stream*. Sixty years ago, the 28-year-old Henry Roth published his first novel, *Call It Sleep*. This was a narrative of two years — 1911-13 — in the life of a boy, David Schearl, a recent immigrant to New York. Acclaimed by the discriminating as a masterpiece and abused by Marxists for not making sufficient revolutionary gestures, it benefited little from such controversy, for the publisher went bankrupt.

War intervened, taste turned from proletarian fiction (too glib a phrase for *Call It Sleep*), and it was three decades before, first, the advocacy of Walter Rideout had it reissued in America and then praise from Walter Allen prompted its belated publication in England. Paperback sales were large, and continuing.

News indeed to cheer Roth, who had since published only a few sketches and essays. Such was the emotional turbulence of his life in the Thirties, further complicated by the warring demands of art and politics (that "bloody crossroads" in Lionel Trilling's expression) that work on a second novel went off the rails. Perhaps most crucially, it was impossible to see where his writing could go after that début.

MERCY OF A RUDE STREAM
Volume 1: A Star Shines Over Mount Morris Park
By Henry Roth
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £15.99

Assimilating rather than aping Joyce, Roth turned the Lower East Side into a distinctive cityscape. The old New York of Edith Wharton briefly overlaps with Roth's Lower East Side on a quiet Fifth Avenue; both are equally remote. Here is that classic pattern of a sensitive child, poorly protected by his beloved mother from the rampaging fits to which his father is driven by an inferiority complex so deep-rooted that he even suspects that the boy might not be his. Amid much else, such as a rowdy aunt with an eye for men, and the anti-Semitic taunts of other children, not to mention the crudities of sexual initiation, there is a strong sense of the tenement itself. The brownstone is as vivid as the Yiddish dialogue.


Henry Roth: bard of the Lower East Side

The plot is simple enough. Here is not only the city but an evolving, complex state of mind. It culminates in phantasmagoria, when the boy, beset on all sides, runs off and, all but wilfully, plunges a milk-ladle into the electric track of a trolley-car. But *Call it Sleep* defies such summary.

Roth, soon happily married to the musician Muriel Parker, then spent peripatetic decades as a tool-grinder, plumber, teacher and firefighter, even working in an asylum before taking up farming until the reappearance of *Call It Sleep* enabled them to set up home in Albuquerque. These are the biographical bones to be refracted through *Mercy of a Rude Stream*: 1979 saw an end to the terrible block which had gnawed at his life.

Since then 3,500 pages have accumulated, but their publication takes another twist. This continuing story of a world similar to, but distinct from, *Call It Sleep* is also a paean to the computer. Beset by arthritic hands and other ailments, Roth — or, rather, an aged version of the hero, Ira Stigman — uses a word processor whose velvety touch makes it easier to transcribe, and comment upon, the previous drafts. This computer becomes a character itself, "Ecclesias" no less. Seemingly bizarre, this is neither Mac-user run wild nor that other dread beast, a novel about writing a novel, but a fascinating, genuinely interactive work, taking the reader in and out of Harlem through the Great War and beyond, all the while recalling events personal and historic during the redrafting throughout the 1980s.

Call It Sleep was unique, and so is this. Elaborate as the structure is, it has shaken off Joycean devices. The language is simpler, but the growing network of relations complex. Both Roth and David Schearl, and yet neither of them, Ira finds "history swirled about him in little spindrifts" as he passes through school (a haunting speech from *Henry VIII* supplies the title) while his father's feckless life continues. The milk-round is now exchanged for a stint as conductor on a trolley car whose jolts — allegedly — makes him so prone to diarrhoea that he decides to become a waiter instead and then an irascible shopkeeper. Ira, himself a fervent reader, finds a friend in the son of an Irish-Catholic undertaker and has a rapturous eye for the city beyond the family's cold-water flat (whose privations his mother prizes above the comforts of their previous place because it has a better view).

All the while, aware of Roth's own life, as one cannot help but be, there is a sense of something on the horizon. Quite what, lies beyond this volume — but one never feels frustrated, only eager for the whole. Roth's story, in fiction and out of it, is incredible. One only hopes that it prompts new interest in the world from which he sprang.

Images of art beyond the Pale

In 1923 Dr Albert C. Barnes acquired a colossal number of paintings by Chaim Soutine — estimates vary between fifty and a hundred. Those that remain in the good doctor's foundation in Merion, Pennsylvania, punctuate this *catalogue raisonné* with slabs of monochrome amid the riot of colour. Barnes did not approve of colour photography, and his ban on it has only just been lifted.

The absence of colour serves as a reminder of how crucial a part it plays in Soutine's art. Much of the time the hues are boldly primary, but there are also passages of remarkable subtlety, because for all his obsessive interest in certain subjects, Soutine resists facile pigeon-holing.

These tomes, whose text is short and to the point, are organised according to broad categories, as well as chronologically. The extremely substantial first volume is devoted to landscape (189) and still life (120), while the comparatively slim-line second is given over to portraiture (187). The fact that Soutine's production can be subsumed under these three headings, however loosely, underlines the fact that he was in some ways a profoundly traditional figure.

He was not afraid of the achievements of the past, as so many artists now seem to be, and was as happy to draw strength from recent precursors such as Cézanne and Van Gogh as from earlier painters, at one point hailing El Greco as "the great master". Indeed, the latter's haunting visions of Toledo must have helped Soutine create the almost alarmingly fluid landscapes of Ceret and Cagnes, in which one sometimes has the impression that the trees and buildings are about to slip their moorings and slide out of the picture space altogether.

David Ekserdjian

CHAIM SOUTINE
(1893-1943)
Catalogue Raisonné
By Maurice Tuckman, Esti Dunow, Klaus Perls
Benedikt Taschen, two volumes £39.99

An even more evident source of inspiration was Rembrandt's compelling picture of the carcass of an ox in the Louvre. Soutine wrought countless variations on this theme, and it has rightly been observed that in some of these paintings the hanging meat looks alarmingly human.

What is more, still lives of dead birds come to play a major part in his oeuvre, and these images, many of them of scrawny plucked chickens and turkeys, are among his most haunting works. Commentators on Lucian Freud's nude portraits are wont to dwell on the vulnerability of his sitters, pinned down like so many specimens by the unrelenting scrutiny of his gaze, but Freud's people seem robustly confident by comparison with these hopelessly vulnerable remains of living things.


Windy Day, Auxerre, oil on canvas, c. 1939, one of Soutine's vivid and fluid landscapes, from the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.

The difference may well be a consequence of the fact that, for all his pessimism, Freud gives the impression that he personally is supremely confident, whereas Soutine was the opposite. He was a keen destroyer of his own works, and the hunted look in the eyes of his sitters is perhaps more a reflection of his own angst than of theirs.

These chefs and bellboys were almost without exception chance acquaintances, as if Soutine could not bear to get too close. It is perhaps revealing that he only ever painted one nude (female). In a fascinating footnote, it is revealed here that the picture was signed and dated by Monroe Wheeler, the organiser of the first Soutine retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, with the artist's acquiescence.

It is tempting to wonder whether his self-imposed ban on painting the female nude is to be interpreted in the light of Soutine's Jewishness. Like Chagall, but with startlingly different consequences, he was born in a *shtetl* in Lithuania. The harshness of life in the Pale of settlement marked him, not least since the making of images was looked upon as a crime. Similarly, his early years in Paris were harshly impoverished, and Barnes's bounty came too late to save his digestion. In the end his stomach ulcers killed him.

There have been comparatively few Jewish painters, as opposed to musicians and writers, and it is hardly surprising if Soutine's work has come to be interpreted in terms of the particular conditions of his upbringing. Predictably enough, the pain which is such an all-pervading force in his art is often seen as a prophetic foreshadowing of the subsequent nightmare of the Holocaust. What is important, however, is that Soutine's universal appeal should not be diminished by such associations. In the age of political correctness, it is vital to recognise that first and foremost he was a painter who was a Jew, and only then a Jew who was a painter.

The cost of art books these days often seems prohibitive, but I have no doubt that a publisher would have no difficulty explaining why they are so bankrupting. It remains the case that these two handsome volumes — with their 780 pages, 478 colour and 133 black and white illustrations — are a snip at just under £40. I have no idea how Benedikt Taschen Verlag can afford to do it, but I wish a few other people would find out.

PAPERBACKS



SENTIMENTAL JOURNEYS
By Joan Didion
Flamingo, £6.99
IN THIS volume of essays, written originally for *The New Yorker* and *The New York Review of Books*, Didion explores what makes America tick. From here they read rather like a war correspondent's dispatches — reports from the domestic battlefronts of the 1980s, from Washington, New York and Los Angeles. Along with the political ruminations she provides human glimpses which fix a situation permanently in the mind: the conversation outside a New York courtroom during the infamous "jogger" trial: the Reagans totally fazed by the service in an unfamiliar church. A gripping account of a decade, elegant, mordant and witty.

EVASION
By Françoise Sagan
Allison & Busby, £5.99
IN THE summer of 1940, two society belles, a gigolo and a diplomat flee Paris in a chauffeur-driven limousine, heading optimistically for Lisbon and a boat to New York. Narrowly escaping death by bombardment, they are forced instead to take refuge at a remote farmhouse where daily life threatens to be a complete nightmare. Sagan milks this wartime encounter between alien tribes for all its farcical potential, mercilessly exposing the vanity of her ridiculous characters as they cope with matters of life and death.

A MISLAID MAGIC
By Joyce Windsor
Black Swan, £4.99
THIS first novel, from an author who discovered writing in her retirement, is set in Dorset in the 1920s. It has the ingredients of a fairytale — a family of motherless children, their noble father the earl, an unsympathetic stepmother, a prince charming and a happy ending. One heady summer an arts festival is held at the family's hideous stately pile. Strange energies are released, with goings-on in the phallic shadow of the Cerne Abbas Giant, and yokels appearing in ancient fertility gear. Whimsical, but sharply funny in parts.

● *Contributors: Hazel Leslie, Alison Burns*

GYNT WITHOUT PEER

THE TIMES THE THEATRE CLUB

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Skeletons in the cellar

When Stalin's secret police chief, Lavrenti Beria, spotted a girl he liked, refusing his desires was not a very sensible thing to do. He liked to send bunches of flowers to his fancies. One beauty unwisely turned down his advances but thanked him for the "bouquet". Beria's answer was: "It's not a bouquet. It's a wreath." So it turned out to be.

Beria has always been the most dreaded of all the monsters created by the Soviet Union. Even Stalin described him as "our Himmler". The stories about this Soviet Bluebeard were so ghoulish that they were presumed to be part of the posthumous demonology created by his enemies. But the recent discovery of female skeletons in the cellar of Beria's Moscow house, now the Tunisian Embassy, which date from Beria's heyday in the 1940s, suggests that he was also a sadistic torturer who hunted women down and murdered them.

But Beria was also the most subtle, most able, most cosmopolitan of Stalin's henchmen, not just a sycophant — though witnesses say that his sycophancy was terrifyingly effective, vile to behold — for he had ideas of his own. Somehow this makes his appalling career, from his birth in Georgian Mingrelia in 1899 to his sticky end in 1953, all the worse. This plump, full-lipped, balding sadist with the glinting pince-nez was a cut above the rest.

Beria's Georgian background was the key to his rise. Stalin, who loathed Georgian nationalism, trusted a man with a similar background. (Khrushchev in his memoirs remembers his fears when Beria and Stalin chatted in Georgian, which he did not understand.) As Georgians boast to this day, this was a time when the Soviet empire was ruled by two Georgians. One of the sights in today's Georgia is the marble Grecian temple built by Beria around Stalin's birthplace in Gori.

Simon Sebag Montefiore

BERIA
Stalin's First Lieutenant
By Amy Knight
Princeton, £19.95


Beria: Stalin's Himmler

He survived as Stalin's second-in-command for 15 years, becoming NKVD boss in 1938 and remained responsible for the vast security empire until a few months after Stalin's death. His survival is remarkable considering that his predecessors in the job, Yagoda and Yezhov, each lasted two years before being shot.

As Stalin's closest associate, it was Beria who organised the "deportation" of millions of families whose only crime was to have been members of ethnic groups, like the Tartars, whom Stalin regarded as untrustworthy. Beria was also put in charge of the Soviet nuclear bomb project. Typically, he mastered the science and the scientists, whom he terrorised into accelerating the project as much as possible.

Yet, even today, one finds fans of Beria. Russians will tell you that Beria was never a Communist. Georgians will tell you that he was actually a Georgian nationalist who hated Bolshevism. One can meet old ladies in Tbilisi who were seduced by Beria but will tell you that women loved this old-fashioned gentleman. Even today, it is said he lived better and appreciated beautiful art with finer taste than the other leaders. He loved power, was not afraid of luxury and never worshipped Stalin as the others did: as soon as he was out of Stalin's earshot, he shocked his colleagues with his insults about the dictator.

It has always been known that, after Stalin's death, Beria's attempt to liberalise Soviet rule in East Germany provoked a rebellion in East Berlin, providing the excuse for his fall. Beria wanted to relax Soviet rule over Eastern Europe in a way that Gorbachev would have understood. But his colleagues believed it would bring the whole empire down. They were probably right, as Gorbachev and another ruthless Georgian, Shevardnadze, later learned.

Thus Beria is ripe for revisionism. The danger is that too much can be made of Beria's relative liberalism: the fact that he wanted to liberalise the economy and present East Germany as a more kindly example of Soviet benevolence does not make him a liberal in the Western sense. One remembers how the KGB boss Yuri Andropov (the only secret police chief to actually become Soviet leader) was presented to the gullible West as a jazz-loving liberal.

Amy Knight does not fall into this trap. Hers is a strictly political biography and a very good one; but the man remains an enigma. Given that there are still many people alive who knew him, Knight's lack of personal detail is a shame. The book's best moments are after the war when Stalin begins to tire of Beria: the security empire is split up. Stalin was probably planning to rid himself of Beria and the rest of the old guard with the anti-Semitic "Doctors' Plot", when he was struck down with a fatal stroke. Knight suggests Beria may have let Stalin die; but in any case the Doctors' Plot had left Stalin without any trusted Kremlin doctors.

After Stalin's death, Beria seized control of the security empire and placed the fat, colourless Malenkov in the top job. It must have looked as if Beria might well grab Stalin's throne for himself: in fact, he was too scary and powerful for his colleagues to tolerate.

Beria's death was appropriately macabre: the rumours are so lurid that Knight does not quite clear up the mystery. So fearsome was Beria that when Khrushchev arranged his downfall, only the marshals of the Soviet Union dared to arrest him. It is possible that no trial whatsoever took place. No one but they dared kill him, so he may have been strangled in the Kremlin. Once he was dead, everyone breathed a sigh of relief at this rare example of Soviet justice.

Simon Sebag Montefiore is the author of King's Parade, *a novel. He has travelled widely in the former Soviet Union.*



Blatch on the runway

Air traffic controllers are used to being obeyed. Lady Blatch used to be one and it explains a lot about how she operates as Minister of State for Education. Profile by Biddy Passmore

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Capitalisation, week's change

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BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
6,764.80	Abbey Ntl	516	-18	11.8	2.9	19.9
1,818.70	Allied Irish	276	-13	...	3.8	14.1
3,546.20	Aus New Z	271	+2	...	3.6	21.3
10,390.90	Bankamerica	2925	-100	...	..	..
1,305.80	Bk of Ireland	277	-20	...	4.5	20.4
32.40	Bk Leumi UK	395	-20	17.0	5.4	...
2,599.90	Bank Scotland	222½	-7	4.6	2.6	30.2
9,478.30	Barclays	584	-31	...	2.7	..
15.70	Carlisle	28½	+2½	...	..	..
154.20	Cater Allen	640	-9	28.0	5.3	..
187.10	Cattles	169	-2	..	3.3	22.5
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10,757.60	Citicorp	2837½	-12½	...	...	...
243.20	Close Bros	538	-19	..	2.6	19.6
4,488.50	Commerzbk	£137⅛	-41⅛	...	2.8	...
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41,057.70	Fuji Bank Y	1418	-34	...	0.4	...
201.70	Gerrard Nat	503	-7	31.5	5.3	13.4
8,292.10	HSBC	1010	-49	20.0	2.5	24.2
17,399.20	HSBC HK	1031	-86	20.0	2.4	24.7
702.50	Hambros	450	-8	14.3	4.0	20.8
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26.10	King Shaxson	165	-3	9.0	6.8	...
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7,922.30	Lloyds	617	-8	..	4.6	12.7
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7,856.30	Nat Aust Bk	597½	-15½	...	4.0	14.5
9,207.50	Nat West	554	-15	17.8	4.0	23.7
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7,902.70	Wells Fargo	9850	-250	...	3.1	..
4,470.70	Westpac	255	-2	...	2.1	∞
32.50	Wintrust	383	-7	...	3.2	33.9

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
5,496.70	Allied-Lyons	619 †	-16	..	4.3	17.2
4,904.90	Bass	519	-30	...	4.8	13.8
337.70	Boddington	280	-3	7.5	3.4	16.3
238.90	Bulmer (HP)	455 †	+2	...	2.9	18.3
36.00	Burtonwd Brw	173 †	-1	4.7	3.5	14.5
32.30	Eldridge P 'A'	166	-2	...	2.7	21.0
2,109.00	Fosters Brewing	62½	-1	...	4.6	74.7
66.40	Fuller Sm 'A'	475	+10	7.5	2.0	19.9
9,060.10	Grand Met	436 †	-30	...	3.7	17.0
955.80	Greenalls Grp	458 †	-9	...	3.4	15.8
232.20	Greene King	549	-14	...	2.8	15.4
10,497.40	Guinness	522	...	...	2.9	19.5
21.70	Halsin Hldgs	71 †	-2	...	..	35.4
95.20	Hardy Hansn	261 †	...	...	4.1	14.0
3.55	Heavitree	150	...	3.6	3.1	∞
158.30	Highland Dist	441	-5	...	1.9	21.9
96.00	Holt J	3300	-50	42.0	1.6	20.8
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60.50	Macdn Martn 'A'	445	...	...	2.5	21.2
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298.20	Mrstn Thmp	296	-1	...	2.3	16.5
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26.20	Mrydwn W	216	-22	7.0	4.1	19.3
199.70	Morland	510 †	-33	...	2.4	17.5
5.15	Paramount	10½	-½	...	1.8	18.5
37.40	Regent Inns	257	+10	...	2.2	26.1
2,227.60	SA Breweries	1300	-100	...	2.1	21.5
2,750.90	Scot & New	518 †	-35	...	4.1	15.9
196.90	Taunton Cider	171 †	-9	6.2	4.6	13.3
345.90	Vaux Group	285 †	-11	...	4.2	18.3
127.50	Wetherspoon JD	407	-13	...	1.7	31.6
2,824.60	Whitbread 'A'	544	-23	...	4.1	13.1
362.90	Wolvrhmptn D	548	-10	...	2.9	15.4
15.30	Young 'A'	525	-3	14.7	3.5	21.7

BUILDING, ROADS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
79.40	Abbey	205 †	...	...	1.2	33.7
16.60	Albrighton	22	...	...	0.5	...
62.20	Allen	196	-4	...	3.2	44.4
297.20	Amec	147	-7	3.0	2.6	27.2
3.96	Anglia Sec	12	-½	...	..	..
124.50	Ashtead	415	+27	...	1.4	43.9
463.60	Attwoods	164	-9	...	3.8	...
1,746.90	BPB Ind	351	-4	...	2.7	42.0
46.00	Baggeridge Brk	123 †	-1	...	3.2	37.0
4.08	Bailey (Ben) Con	39	...	0.6	1.9	...
12.70	Barcom	68	-4	...	5.5	8.2
287.80	Bardon	52	-3	2.0	4.8	25.6
505.50	Barratt Devs	229	+2	...	1.8	30.0
281.10	Bellway	288	+2	...	2.6	27.1
27.40	Bellwinch	58	...	...	...	...
396.80	Berisford Intl	239 †	+10	...	...	...
439.50	Berkeley Gp	570 †	-7	...	1.4	30.8
22.60	Bet Bros	151	+1	...	1.7	19.5
30.90	Blockleys	84	-13	1.0	1.5	...
2,491.20	Blue Circle	360	-5	...	4.0	...
47.40	Boot (Henry)	336	-6	6.0	2.2	18.8
32.40	Breedon PLC	114	+1	4.6	5.0	28.0
25.20	Br Dredging	144	+1	5.2	4.5	32.0
23.30	Brit Fittings	98	-19	1.7	3.2	..
524.80	Bryant	190	+4	...	3.2	36.7
50.40	CALA	142	-3	...	2.0	..
1,331.50	CRH	379	-4	...	2.3	20.8
2.94	Cakebread Rby	56	+5	...	..	..
209.80	Costain	40½	-½	...	..	..
132.80	Countryside	124	-3	...	3.8	∞
112.20	Crest Nicholson	113 †	-1	...	1.1	...
24.00	Cussins	135	-5	...	0.4	...
11.10	Edmond Hldgs	21½	-3½	0.3	1.7	...
59.10	Epwin	300	+5	7.0	2.9	25.4
36.40	Erith	77	-1	0.3	0.6	...
43.70	Eve Group	458	-12	...	2.8	17.2
17.70	Freeman Gp	244	+22	6.0	3.1	38.2
51.50	Galliford	58	+1	...	2.2	...
1.57	Gibbs & Dandy	90	-1	...	2.8	...
103.00	Gleeson (MJ)	1020	-5	...	1.6	17.7
379.90	Hewden-Stuart	166	-7	...	2.1	35.5
4.74	Hewetson	51	-1	...	3.1	37.3
424.50	Heywd Wim	454 †	-4	13.0	4.0	...
56.90	Higgs & Hill	129	-4	2.5	2.4	...
12.90	How Gp	31	-2	...	4.5	...
6.40	Howard Hldgs	25	-1	0.5	2.5	...
247.80	Ibstock Johnsen	99	+10	1.0	1.3	...
15.90	Jarvis	29½	...	...	...	...
186.90	Laing (J)	408	+1	9.0	2.8	16.3
63.00	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	157	+3	...	5.1	...
12.50	Ln Clydeside	138 †	...	...	4.3	27.1
62.30	Lovell (YJ)	156	-14	...	...	70.8
149.20	Manders	398	-2	9.3	2.9	24.4
550.60	Marley	193	-1	4.2	2.7	56.6
178.80	Marshalls	147 †	-1	...	3.4	...
62.00	Maunders (J)	250	-3	...	2.6	24.1
161.60	Mcalpine (A)	286	+6	6.5	2.8	49.5
52.60	McCarthy & S	75	-3	0.5	0.8	...
689.70	Meyer Int	550	+4	...	2.3	55.1
195.30	Mowlem (J)	179	+5	4.0	2.8	...
32.10	NSM	187	-9	...	..	..
7.70	Needler	41	-5	...	4.4	19.1
217.40	Newman Tnks	180	-14	...	4.7	24.0
366.40	Persimmon	372	-4	8.6	2.9	38.0
5.50	Phoenix Timber	16	-1	...	...	...
18.60	Pochins	1790½	+9½	29.0	2.0	25.5
148.90	Prowting	192	+13	3.4	2.2	...
1,873.50	RMC Gp	951	-16	...	2.6	35.7
203.90	Raine Ind	108½	-3½	...	3.5	25.7
7.68	Ramus	32	+4	...	..	..
1,075.40	Redland	596	-17	25.0	5.2	34.7
10.70	Roskel	71	-2	4.3	7.6	10.5
934.70	Rugby Group	319	-14	6.4	2.5	24.4
9.09	Smlld-Rves	58	-2	...	0.5	...
37.20	Sharpe & Fisher	180	-9	...	2.8	31.3
193.90	Sheffield Insl	283	+8	...	2.4	69.5
27.10	Sheriff Hldgs	258 †	-2	...	1.8	24.6
3.42	Shorco	110	-5	5.2	5.0	35.0
23.20	Smart (J)	235	-5	...	4.5	17.7
14.30	Stanmun	4½	+½	...	...	...
1,680.50	Tarmac	183	-11	5.5	3.9	...
71.50	Tay Homes	245	-10	...	3.0	30.3
668.60	Taylor Woodrw	160	-6	1.0	0.8	...
254.50	Tilbury Dougls	753	-2	33.0	5.5	24.5
5.51	Tores Hire	34 †	-5	...	1.4	...
342.60	Travis Perkins	335	-22	8.0	3.1	59.0
6.75	Trencherwood	15	-1	...	...	...
15.60	Try Group	36	+3	1.0	3.5	10.2
2.29	Tudor	21	...	0.2	1.5	...
51.50	Vibroplant	112	+1	2.5	2.8	40.3
36.90	Ward Hldgs	70	-1	...	...	...
1.07	Waterhouse	43	-2	...	...	...
94.60	Watts Blake	455	-5	...	3.3	19.6
141.00	Westbury	212	-12	5.0	2.9	33.1
27.40	Wiggins	6½	-½	...	...	...
123.20	Wilson Bowdn	562	-2	...	2.0	39.6
42.40	Wilson (C)	244	-9	3.4	2.0	42.3
364.20	Wimpey G	223	-7	...	2.9	...
2.10	YTM	29	...	...	...	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
64.40	ADT	719	-29	...	...	...
8.70	Adare & Harvey	370	+22	13.0	4.2	7.1
2.50	Air London	58	-1	3.5	6.4	12.1
7.4	Allmon Lakes	43	-1	2.0	5.2	...
56.40	Auto Sec	134	-5	...	5.7	24.0
31.20	BET Ord	142½	-9½	...	2.0	5.7
31.50	BNB Res	144	-1	4.9	4.3	...
46.50	BPP	253	-1	8.3	4.1	14.0
5.50	BSM	184	-4	...	3.9	16.1
3.50	Barbour Index	220	...	8.1	4.7	14.9
1.60	Brustead	22	-1	0.7	4.0	...
43.50	Brit Data Mgt	265	+1	4.7	2.9	14.9
4.62	[illegible]	29	-3	...	1.1	23.1
9.02	[illegible] Service	75	+5	...	0.9	...
23.40	CRT Gp	110	...	...	3.3	19.7
106.30	Capita Group	220	-2	...	1.3	34.4
51.20	Casket Plc	56½	-1½	...	2.0	21.7
22.40	Chiltern Capital	24½	-1½	...	...	...
1.20	[illegible]	84	-16	...	...	...
329.60	Chubb Sec	366 †	-24	...	1.7	34.0
4.70	Comace	114	+1	...	1.6	29.8
7.70	Corp Service	47	-1	...	...	...
25.30	Coutts Cnslg	92	-3	...	...	...
24.40	Dar	159	-9	3.3	2.6	21.6
24.40	Davis Service	269	-4	...	3.1	20.3
5.50	EW Fact	151	-12	4.4	3.7	17.3
12.60	Gardiner	30½	-2	0.7	3.0	∞
244.50	Hays	319	-11	...	2.1	27.7
106.50	H & Robinson	284	-3	...	3.0	20.7
5.00	Holmes Protecn	34	-1	...	...	2.1
120.40	Hunn Whamp	232½	-30½	...	1.5	27.5
96.20	ISS B Dk	2697½	+3½	...	0.8	19.6
139.80	Inchcape	570	-9	...	3.1	19.9
22.50	Johnson Clnrs	1028	-5	25.7	3.1	22.4
11.50	Lep	7½	...	...	...	...
42.00	Mice Gp	362	-4	4.0	1.1	24.9
64.30	Manpower	1308½	-12½	...	...	...
46.00	Michael Page	77	-1½	1.8	2.9	32.7
8.30	Pentas	110	-2	8.0	9.1	4.1
2.13	Prime People	4½	-½	...	...	...
17.00	Provident	88	-5	...	21.3	4.9
42.50	PCO	400	-15	15.2	4.9	11.1
9.90	REA	110	-1	2.0	2.3	...
54.00	Reed Executive	125	-2	...	...	...
28.40	Reliance Secs	126	-2	4.5	4.5	33.0
242.20	Rentokil	254	-20	...	1.2	32.3
22.00	Rolfe & Nolan	162	-5	...	2.6	24.9
675.50	Salvesen (C)	287	-20	...	3.4	18.2
6.57	Scot Pictorial	96	-2	0.8	1.8	17.8
2.30	Select Appt	17	-1½	...	...	...
154.60	Serco Gp	1333	-5	13.3	1.2	36.7
5.04	Sherwd Cmpt	99	-4	...	8.6	2.9
57.50	Sketchley	117	-8	...	3.2	26.8
74.40	Warner Howrd	335	+3	6.6	2.5	17.5
3.40	Welpac	30	-1	...	...	...
42.60	Wills Gp	25½	-½	...	1.8	10.9

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
737.00	Allied Colloids	280 †	-1	...	1.9	25.8
609.90	Amersham	1065	+5	...	1.6	30.4
32.20	Anglo Utd	3½	...	...	...	...
4,756.20	BASF DM	£114⅛	-75	...	5.5	..
444.70	BTP	346 †	+9	...	3.4	27.5
5,344.70	Bayer DM50	£129⅞	+3⅛	...	3.8	...
74.30	Plasticn	169	+1	6.5	4.8	19.2
33.70	Brent Chems	124	-1	...	7.5	11.3
14.70	Br BioTech	385	-3	...	...	...
5.46	Caird Gp	16½	-2	...	...	28.5
50.30	Canning (W)	180	-10	7.2	5.1	20.6
2,230.10	Courtaulds	505	-34	...	3.5	12.6
475.90	Croda	362	-6	...	2.7	20.8
23.60	Doeflex	127	-2	4.6	4.5	9.7
224.70	Ellis & Everard	271 †	-7	...	3.3	22.7
11.60	Euro Colour	59½	-2½	0.8	2.9	19.4
122.90	Halstead (J)	345	-1	...	2.4	17.1
135.00	Hickson	193	-7	...	5.2	17.9
4,279.40	Hoechst	£119⅛	-103⅛	...	2.1	...
166.70	Holliday Chem	135	+5	...	2.4	18.0
5,852.10	ICI	787	-24	...	4.4	...
1,078.20	Laporte	840	+5	19.9	3.0	23.2
178.00	Leigh	216	-14	...	4.5	19.0
17.10	MTM	66	+4	...	...	...
4,539.20	Norsk Hydro	2250½	-99½	...	1.2	32.5
14.00	Paterson Zoch	377	-14	...	2.7	19.5
25.80	-do- 'A'	347	-1	...	2.9	18.5
112.60	Plysu	237	-5	...	3.7	20.2
44.70	Porvair	280	-3	3.8	1.6	31.0

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
36.60	Sutcliffe Speak	65	+1	...	..	..
120.50	Wardle Storeys	484	+9	...	4.5	22.4
45.90	[illegible]	620	+10	17.0	3.4	21.2
219.40	Yorks Chem	480	+13	...	2.0	25.7
305.20	Yule Catto	307	-5	...	2.4	19.1
7,200.90	Zeneca	763	-21	...	4.5	45.0

DRAPERY, STORES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
42.50	Alexon	74	-2	...	5.1	..
232.90	Allders	226	-9	...	3.4	10.8
1,088.50	Argos Plc	360	-9	...	2.4	31.2
13.40	Ashley Group	9½	-½	...	2.5	...
200.20	Ashley (Laura)	98	-2	0.1	0.1	...
272.90	Asprey	342	-3	5.2	1.9	22.1
59.60	Austin Reed	194	-5	...	1.6	...
76.00	Beattie (J) 'A'	165	-2	...	3.6	16.6
60.80	Bentalls	145	-3	1.9	1.6	...
143.50	Betterware	140	-4	...	1.9	16.8
13.00	Blacks Leis	41	-2	2.2	6.9	...
464.00	Body Shop	246	-15	...	0.9	31.7
64.10	Brown & Jackson	10	-½	...	1.0	5.1
357.70	Brown (N)	490	-1	...	1.9	28.8
773.90	Burton	55 †	-3	...	4.5	..
35.50	Canters	235	-6	...	2.1	32.6
90.00	Church	463	-32	12.5	3.4	41.2
27.20	Clinton Cards	160	-5	4.3	3.4	19.3
1,838.70	Coats Viyella	272	-6	...	3.4	37.6
18.40	Colourvision	91 †	-2	5.6	7.7	16.3
31.70	Ctry Casuals	165	-4	...	3.1	15.3
214.40	Courts Furnish	875	-4	5.6	0.8	11.0
2.64	Crown Eyes	165	...	7.5	5.7	11.3
1,941.60	Dairy Farm Intl	117	-4½	...	3.1	17.2
137.30	Dewhirst (I J)	109	-5	0.8	0.9	35.0
875.20	Dixons Grp	221 †	+11	...	3.6	...
4.88	ERA Gp	8½	-½	...	...	69.7
6.96	Elys (Wimbldn)	580	...	16.0	3.5	19.9
29.10	Essex Furn	254	-4	...	1.7	40.6
167.20	Etam	256	-7	7.0	3.4	23.5
419.50	Fine Art Dev	527	-7	13.0	3.1	17.1
2.79	Fired Earth Tiles	49	+1	...	...	...
16.50	Formmster	708 †	-2	14.5	2.6	12.9
24.00	French Conna	150	-5	...	..	..
23.90	Gent SF	60	-3	...	4.0	20.5
18.90	Goldsmiths Gp	80	-6	0.3	0.4	...
5,774.40	GUS	574	-40	...	2.5	17.6
3.74	Hampden Grp	25	...	...	5.0	12.4
79.60	Harstone	78	-3	...	...	...
37.00	Helene Plc	29½	-1	2.0	8.5	13.9
5.26	Heritage	93	-3	...	...	...
6.47	Honeysuckle	78	...	...	3.6	11.4
18.50	Jacques Vert	195	-7	...	2.3	14.8
4,275.90	Kingfisher	643	+1	...	2.7	22.1
28.80	Leslie Wise Gp	83	...	4.0	6.0	17.1
90.10	Liberty	543	-2	7.2	1.7	63.9
390.10	Lloyds Chem	330	-31	...	...	11.6
1,042.00	MFI	179 †	+2	...	..	..
11,734.00	Marks Spencer	423	-2	...	2.5	21.6
371.40	Menzies (John)	668	-5	...	2.1	17.3
47.60	Moss Bros	285	+8	5.5	2.4	33.5
843.50	Next	227	-5	3.5	1.9	27.1
11.40	Oliver (G)	45	+1	...	..	..
168.90	Oriflame Intl	315 †	-9	...	3.9	15.4
48.90	Pentos	34	+1	0.8	2.9	7.1
105.30	QS Hldgs	268	+2	5.1	2.4	19.1
32.70	Rhino Grp	39	-3	...	..	..
40.20	Rosebys	204	-3	...	3.0	24.5
194.90	Sherwood Gp	174	-5	...	1.9	15.7
1,815.60	Sears	120	-7	...	3.6	48.3
107.00	Signet Group	36½	...	...	..	..
1,360.30	Smith WH 'A'	497	-3	...	3.8	15.9
162.90	-do- B	117	-4	...	3.2	18.7
2.02	Specialeyes	13	...	...	...	...
946.90	Storehouse	228	-1	...	2.7	22.5
115.00	T & S Stores	180	-6	6.0	4.2	17.4
83.10	Tie Rack	161	-3	1.0	0.9	26.4
136.20	Time Products	257	-5	7.7	3.8	22.2
8.52	Usher (Frank)	123	-7	6.0	6.1	10.6
302.70	Vendome	435	-22	...	1.8	20.3
19.30	Vtsal	35	-1	1.0	3.6	10.8
85.80	WEW Group	59	-4	...	2.9	43.5
3.39	Wensum	48	...	1.8	4.9	...
445.50	Wickes	119	-6	...	0.2	54.1
7.12	Wld of Leather	89	...	...	...	...
72.80	Wyevale	190	-3	...	2.8	22.1
3.09	Xtra-vision	2	-½	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
335.60	ACT Group	181	+7	...	3.5	18.2
38.20	Acal	364	+1	...	3.1	19.0
52.70	Admiral	488	...	5.7	1.5	20.6
86.10	Alba	186	-2	...	3.3	21.0
10.30	Alphameric	38	-1	...	...	...
228.70	Amstrad	39	-8½	...	1.6	...
19.90	App Hold	95	...	...	...	...
26.80	Arlen	36	-1	...	...	...
291.40	Astec	94½	+8½	...	0.3	...
58.30	Azlan	267	-3	...	1.4	31.8
26.90	Beales Hunter	278 †	+3	...	4.3	17.2
3.98	Bennett & Fount	3½	-½	...	...	...
1,569.10	BICC	445	-24	19.2	5.4	...
161.70	Blick	530	-4	...	2.4	19.3
266.40	Borland	937½	-50	...	...	...
676.30	Bowthorpe	364	-13	...	2.4	24.1
25,064.70	BT	452 †	-16	...	4.5	21.8
5,526.60	BT P/P	193 †	-18	...	4.4	21.4
4.49	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	17½	-1½	0.1	0.7	...
24.70	Burnfield	72	-2	5.7	10.0	11.4
10,587.50	Cable Wireless	485 †	-50	...	2.0	25.4
77.50	Chloride	32½	...	...	...	...
47.20	CML Micro	270	-5	4.7	2.2	19.6
18.70	Comput People	135	-1	...	...	...
428.70	Cray Elect	194½	-4½	...	1.3	18.9
51.60	Critchley	445	+5	...	1.3	25.6
762.20	Delta	515	-24	...	3.4	21.5
25.20	Denmans Ele	578 †	+15	...	1.4	18.6
133.10	Domino	520	-15	7.9	1.9	∞
107.20	Dowding Mills	73	-2	...	4.3	31.3
104.00	Druck	1625 †	-20	10.3	0.8	32.6
1,143.50	Electrocomponents	544	-18	...	1.9	30.6
49.20	El Data Prc	565	-18	...	1.2	16.0
40.70	Electron House	162	-6	...	2.1	23.0
35.80	Emess	37½	+1	0.1	0.4	...
337.90	Eurotherm	756 †	-12	...	1.6	25.7
867.20	FKI	195	-3½	...	2.1	28.6
789.30	Farnell Elect	589	-34	...	1.4	31.2
5.84	Feedback	69	-4	...	3.6	9.3
50.40	First Tech	324 †	-11	...	0.8	27.0
17.70	Forward Gp	216	-13	4.0	2.3	15.3
6.12	Forward Tech	18	-1	...	...	...
9,435.80	GEC	345 †	-4½	10.4	3.8	17.2
119.80	Graseby	186	-4	...	7.3	39.1
37.10	Graystone	13½	-½	...	..	..
2.02	Hildare	42	-4	0.5	1.5	...
6.71	INSTEM	148	+5	3.1	2.6	10.6
72.80	Ind Control	182½	-1½	...	3.0	18.4
67.30	Jones Stroud	370	-5	...	3.1	14.7
47.60	Kalamazoo	125	...	...	2.7	29.0
3.84	Kembrey	14	+1	0.1	1.4	...
142.40	Kenwood App	388 †	+1	...	2.5	21.6
35.30	Kewill Sys	292	+23	...	...	...
13.60	Kode	146	+3	6.0	5.1	17.3
4.51	Laser-Scan	28	...	...	...	...
25.80	LBMS	144	-1	0.7	0.7	20.3
17.80	Lec Refrig	295	...	9.0	3.8	...
265.20	Life Sciences	156	-2	3.7	3.0	16.9
191.30	Logica	311	-1	...	1.6	35.9
4.22	LPA Inds	47 †	-1	...	6.5	...
118.80	MR Data Mngmt	214	+1	...	3.0	20.1
163.20	Macro 4	718	-5	...	3.1	21.8
113.70	Memvier-Swa	233	-11	...	2.1	20.2
140.60	Micro Focus	990	-55	...	...	9.1
60.20	Microgen	168 †	-5	7.2	5.4	∞
23.20	Microvitec	36½	-½	...	...	...
216.50	Misys	558 †	-8	...	1.7	20.4
344.50	Mitel	436	-9	...	...	...
19.90	MMT Compu	168	-2	...	3.0	22.9
4.75	Molynx	23½	-1½	1.3	6.9	...
46.60	MTL Instr	265	-3	3.7	1.7	20.0
21.30	Multitone Elec	141 †	...	3.5	3.1	25.6
36.00	Murray Ent	134 †	-10	...	1.8	∞
10,766.40	NYNEX	2609½	-18½	...	...	...
31.30	Neotronics	121 †	-2	...	2.7	21.1
2.46	Newmark (L)	53	...	...	...	...
25.10	Nortdata	338	-41	...	0.6	26.0
9.85	Northamber	58	-7	0.6	1.3	...
11.10	Oceonics	9	+1	...	...	...
173.00	Oxford Inst	356	+13	4.6	1.6	24.4
45.10	P & P	81	-2	2.0	3.3	∞
111.20	Peek	95	-2	3.4	4.5	24.3
14.40	Pegasus	230	-4	...	3.5	59.0
13.50	Philips Fn 4%	£105½	...	...	5.5	...
5,226.60	-do- Lmp nv	1634½	-21½	...	...	...
143.70	Phonelink	405	-10	...	...	...
31.10	Pifco	327	+1	...	1.6	27.4
21.90	-do- 'A' Voting	317	+1	...	1.6	26.6
3.25	Plasmec	70	...	3.0	5.4	5.9
29.60	Pressac	120	+4	...	2.7	25.4
57.90	Psion	258	-3	2.5	1.2	69.5
587.20	Racal Elect	210 †	-14	4.2	2.5	12.5
8.23	Radamec	50	...	...	3.8	10.7
9.55	Radius	35	-2	2.2	9.0	12.1
7.63	Real Time	109	-4	...	3.4	22.4
4.68	Rivas	19	...	...	...	22.8
117.40	Sage Gp	570 †	-3	...	2.2	17.5
31.00	Sanderson Elec	345	-3	9.9	2.6	14.7
31.70	Seantronic	57	-1	3.1	4.6	23.8
79.70	Scholes Grp	306	-2	...	3.0	36.9
324.00	Sema Gp	356	-7	2.9	1.0	38.9
26.30	Servomex	264	+5	5.9	2.8	21.0
14.60	Silvermines	45	...	...	3.8	...
3.70	Soundtracs	87	-5	2.4	3.5	∞
3,550.90	TDK	2700	-2½	...	1.2	20.7
1.35	TDS Circuits	15	-2	...	...	...
130.30	Telemetrix	144	-17	0.4	0.7	35.7
99.10	Telspec	281	+10	...	1.1	[illegible]
4,611.20	THORN EMI	1085 †	-53	...	[illegible]	25.1
20.20	Thorpe FW	165	-13	...	2.0	19.0
3.63	Total Systems	36	-1	1.5	5.2	6.4
97.60	Tunstal	296	-5	...	1.5	..
215.50	Unitech	715	-5	...	2.5	52.4
29.90	Verity	15	-1	...	...	...
35.40	Vistec	29	-1½	0.3	1.6	27.1
6,277.40	Vodafone	524 †	-11	...	1.5	27.1
129.60	Volex	474	-9	18.1	4.8	19.5
3.46	Western Selecm	23 †	-1	0.2	1.4	...
44.00	Wholesale Ftg	310	-5	11.7	4.2	12.3

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1,458.30	East Midlands	666 †	-49	...	3.9	11.9
1,830.60	Eastern Elec	673 †	-37	...	3.7	12.9
1,609.00	Hydro-Elect	419	-28	...	3.5	14.6
1,491.80	London Elect	684	-41	...	3.9	12.9
926.60	Manweb	780 †	-44	...	3.5	9.7
1,449.70	Midlands Elec	691 †	-45	...	3.9	10.9
6,076.90	National Powr	475½	-5½	...	2.6	11.8
892.30	Northern Elec	772 †	-62	...	3.3	9.4
673.20	Nthn Ireland	289 †	-3	...	3.1	12.7
1,260.70	Norweb	730 †	-60	20.8	3.6	10.5
4,241.40	PowerGen	541	-17	...	2.6	14.2
3,431.20	Scottish Power	421 †	-31	...	3.4	15.6
976.60	Seeboard	383	-40	...	3.4	12.0
758.50	Sth Wales	740 †	-49	...	3.4	11.3
830.90	Sth Western	675 †	-65	...	3.9	10.0
1,840.10	Southern Elec	679 †	-52	...	3.9	9.0
1,391.60	Yorkshire Elec	670 †	-55	...	4.0	12.6

FINANCE, LAND

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
24.50	Aitken Hume	53	...	1.0	2.4	11.2
30.40	BWD	154	-6	3.4	2.7	24.8
32.60	Baltic Plc	158	-4	...	1.2	..
621.60	Caledonia	948	-6	...	2.6	27.5
50.60	Camellia	2025	-25	...	1.9	7.5

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
78.70	Candover	353	-10	10.4	3.7	..
316.90	Govett	451	-10	...	3.6	13.2
68.70	Ivory Sime	237	-13	...	3.7	20.5
57.80	Johnson Fry	385	-35	...	...	...
240.00	Lon Forfaiting	240	-5	8.7	4.5	17.5
17.20	Manakin	84	-1	...	...	...
22.50	Nat Home Loan	21½	-2	...	...	0.5
19.60	Newmarket	55	-1	...	...	...
70.90	Rathbone Brs	360	-5	6.5	2.3	21.9
68.10	Rutland Tst	26½	-1	...	3.8	15.7
40.10	S & U	375	-25	10.2	3.4	13.9
21.60	Singer & Fried	110	+5	...	3.4	...
388.50	Sotheby's	1145	+35	...	1.4	...
492.70	SIP Capital	190	-4	3.0	2.1	74.2
33.70	Towry Law	221	...	...	2.6	21.7

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
9,985.80	Amer Express	2075	-67½	...	...	...
248.20	Henderson Ad	1160	-38	...	4.5	26.7
558.20	Invesco	226	-19	...	1.7	...
2,799.60	Jardine Strat	296½	-14½	...	2.7	12.4
966.70	MAI	297	-1	...	2.9	18.8
1,359.60	MAM	723	-45	16.0	2.8	18.1
917.20	M & G	1218	-25	...	2.6	25.5
266.30	Smith New Crt	462½	-10½	...	1.3	4.7
35.00	Trio Hldgs	63	+2	2.5	5.1	∞

FOODS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2,500.90	AB Food	557 †	-29	...	3.4	11.5
1,695.90	ASDA Group	58¾	-2	1.6	3.5	..
120.80	Acatos & Hutch	300	+1	...	2.8	13.3
406.40	Albert Fisher	67	-1	...	7.0	11.9
2,883.50	Argyll	257 †	-1	...	5.4	9.2
22.70	Banks (S C)	265	-3	9.0	4.2	10.1
66.00	Barr (AG)	349 †	+4	6.5	2.3	∞
11.80	Bensons Crisp	64	-3	...	5.6	14.4
959.90	Booker	450	...	...	6.0	39.0
27.70	Borthwick	48	-1½	...	3.1	59.6
248.40	Brake Bros	488	-6	6.3	1.6	20.5
66.70	Budgen	41	-1	...	4.0	12.4
4,234.70	Cadbury-Schw	509	-5	...	3.3	18.0
12.50	Carrs Milling	182	-7	...	3.0	13.3
19.50	Cranswick	145	-11	...	6.9	13.7
4.36	Cullens	16½	-½	0.5	3.8	47.4
14.00	Dalepak	121	-9	...	5.2	35.1
1,076.30	Dalgety	470	-20	...	5.6	13.5
4.77	Daniels S	57	...	...	0.5	...
380.70	Devro	282	-4	...	2.4	26.8
24.30	Everest	97	-4	...	4.8	17.6
86.90	Farepak	384 †	-7	5.9	1.9	23.6
1.97	Farringford	7½	...	...	...	...
77.80	Finlay (James)	78	-1	...	6.7	25.9
290.00	Fyffes	103	-2	...	1.7	∞
208.90	Geest	291	-17	8.1	3.5	13.1
22.90	Global	19	...	0.5	3.3	29.6
22.90	Grand Central	58	-1	0.8	1.7	...
365.10	Hazlewood Fds	157½	+½	...	5.2	8.9
1,193.40	Hillsdown	173	-3	9.8	6.4	13.6
444.90	Iceland Group	162	-8	...	2.7	10.2
44.40	JLI Group	107	-4	...	3.5	11.6
894.60	Kwik Save	579	-2	...	4.0	10.4
91.90	Low (Wm)	172	+1	...	6.1	6.0
117.90	Matthews (B)	95	+2	2.5	3.1	62.2
14.40	Merchant Retail	17 †	-½	0.9	7.0	34.8
763.70	Morrison (W)	107	-11	...	1.0	13.9
97.20	Nichols (JN)	246	-3	5.5	2.8	17.8
1,334.60	Nthn Foods	233 †	-1	...	4.6	11.4
6.21	Nrthmbrn Fns	13	...	...	...	...
272.80	Nurdin Peach	215	+13	...	3.6	11.9
182.40	Park Foods	306 †	-4	...	2.7	23.6
94.60	Perkins Food	77	-4	...	7.2	9.6
66.90	PizzaExpress	126	-4	...	0.5	26.6
5.60	Regina Hlth	4	-¼	...	...	...
6,458.30	Sainsbury J	361	...	...	3.6	12.7
3.48	Sentry Farm	81	+3	1.5	2.3	14.5
36.70	Sims Food	121	+1	...	6.7	23.3
1,594.90	Tate & Lyle	445	-3	...	3.7	11.9
4,419.00	Tesco	225	+2½	...	4.1	10.2
134.20	Thorntons	195	...	...	2.3	...
30.00	Treats	212	-15	...	2.4	17.0
911.80	Unigate	390	-17½	...	5.3	12.8
1,832.30	Utd Biscuits	349	-9	...	5.5	21.6
17.90	Usborne	19½	-1	...	3.4	14.4
154.80	Watson & Phil	399 †	-2	...	4.5	16.7
19.10	West Trust	45	-1	...	7.5	...

HOTELS, CATERERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
3.12	Abrdn Stk Fm	26	...	...	..	..
167.90	City Centre Rest	88	-2	1.5	2.2	21.2
2,217.90	Forte	257	-5	...	3.6	30.2
39.80	Friendly Hotels	200	-2	...	3.5	39.5
16.60	Harmony Props	10½	-½	...	...	...
54.00	Jurys Hotel	158½	...	...	4.0	12.9
2,339.10	Ladbroke	205	-½	11.1	6.8	17.5
707.30	Mandarin Orntl	104½	-½	...	3.2	25.9
49.60	Resort Hotels	45	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
19.30	Ryan Hotels E	29½	-1½	...	4.2	...
307.40	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1075	+62	7.0	0.8	...
341.40	Stakis	89½	+2½	1.0	1.4	∞

INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
10.10	AAF Inds	44	+6	...	25.0	2.7
462.60	AAH	518 †	-5	...	4.2	17.3
24.40	ADM	175 †	+25	...	5.4	21.4
384.50	APV	130½	-9½	...	5.2	...
128.00	ASW	191	+1	...	3.9	...
162.60	Adwest	200	-2	...	4.5	19.2
7.60	Aerospace Eng	20	-1	...	4.7	...
73.60	Airsprung	308	...	...	1.9	19.7
70.40	Alendra W	209	-1	4.1	2.5	33.1
4.73	Allied Radio	10½	+½	...	...	...
98.00	Alumasc	316	-3	...	2.3	18.7
30.60	Alvis	55 †	...	...	2.3	9.9
29.20	Amber Ind	745	...	...	3.2	17.1
16.40	Amberley Gp	61	-7	1.0	2.0	...
36.30	Anagen	79	-1	...	...	...
12.10	Andrews Sykes	65	-10	...	4.4	...
487.20	Antofagasta	1550	-235	...	1.3	26.7
16.70	Armour	58	-1	...	3.6	13.7
45.70	Ash & Lacy	175	-2	6.4	4.6	17.9
11.80	Ass Br Eng	4½	-½	...	1.4	38.8
153.70	Avon Rubber	580 †	-3	...	3.6	20.4
36.50	Assoc Nursgs	300 †	...	...	0.4	14.4
52.80	Atlas Equip	508	...	...	5.4	12.8
7.80	Ayrshire Metal	78	...	...	...	...
866.50	BBA	214	-6½	...	4.4	18.2
8.10	BLP Group	122	+5	...	...	...
47.10	BM Gp	42½	-½	...	1.6	...
3,198.70	BOC	672	-61	...	4.3	26.4
218.20	BSG	84	-1½	...	4.8	29.2
143.60	BSS Group	550	-10	...	3.9	30.7
13,154.40	BTR	378	-3	...	3.7	21.1
42.00	BWI	172	-1	...	4.9	15.4
193.80	Babcock	36	-1	...	3.8	21.5
4.67	Bailey (CH)	8½	...	...	...	...
256.30	Baird (Wm)	262	-1	9.9	4.2	19.2
859.10	Barlow	437½	-31½	...	7.5	6.0
109.70	Baynes (Charles)	79	-2	...	3.0	32.5
7.33	Bearing Power	21½	-1½	...	4.4	15.0
3.06	Beauford	9½	-½	...	...	...
1.61	Bedford (W)	34	...	...	...	...
22.20	Benson Group	17	...	...	2.2	12.9
97.40	Bespak	385 †	...	10.2	3.3	12.0
125.00	Bibby (J)	80	-7	...	3.1	...
3.42	Billam (J)	211	+8	5.3	3.1	10.6
2.44	Bilston Batrsea	29	+1	...	...	...
10.60	Bimec Ind	8½	-1	...	...	...
57.70	Birkby	265	-3	3.7	1.8	13.8
5.91	Black Arrow	36	-3	2.1	7.3	11.3
6.09	Black & Edgtn	1½	...	...	...	...
154.60	Black (Peter)	291	-1	3.6	1.7	21.9
59.00	Bluebird Toys	745	+15	4.5	0.9	[illegible]
193.80	Bodycote	319	-7	...	2.0	20.3
1.84	Bogod 'A'	38	...	[illegible]	2.3	14.2
5,636.80	Boots	542	-10	...	3.2	21.4
2.04	Booth Inds	51	-3	...	...	...
2,395.20	Bowater	480	-6	...	3.1	[illegible]
385.80	Bowater Inc	1615½	+31½	...	...	...
95.30	Braemore Inds	234	...	4.0	...	...
13.70	Brasway	17½	...	...	...	...
147.80	Brammer	330	+5	13.0	4.9	[illegible]
6.61	Bridgend Gp	24	-3	0.4	...	...
99.00	Bridon	157	+5	...	3.2	...
8.62	Bridport-Grdry	90	-1	...	3.6	...
1,478.10	Brierley Inv	57½	+2½	...	5.9	14.2
26.30	Br Bldg & Eng	235	...	...	4.2	14.3
4.15	Br Bloodstock	107	-3	...	...	...
152.00	Br Polythene	510	-1	...	2.4	18.2
2,630.00	Br Steel	142½	-3½	...	3.1	...
26.20	Br Thornton	153 †	...	...	3.2	...
605.40	Br Vita	291	...	7.5	3.9	15.9
66.10	Britt Grp	19½	...	...	...	...
15,047.70	Broken Hill	969½	-11½	...	3.1	41.1
95.10	Bromsgrove Ind	119 †	...	...	4.5	5.5
5.64	Brooke Tool	13	-½	...	...	...
17.80	Brown & Tawse	55	-1	...	...	...
23.60	Bullough	174	...	6.0	4.5	∞
12.20	Business Tech	15½	...	...	...	...
19.00	CI Group	22	+1	0.5	3.3	21.1
6.35	Campbell & Arm	44	+1	...	...	...
33.40	Cannon St	32½	+2	...	...	...
37.30	Cape	277	+4	...	4.6	13.5
2,460.90	Caradon	313	-10	...	2.6	33.5
360.00	-do- pf	200	-3	7.2	4.5	...
169.30	Carclo Eng	280	-4	...	3.9	22.9
1,890.60	Carnaud Mt	2349½	-29½	...	...	∞
3.03	[illegible]	42 †	+4	...	3.3	23.3
57.00	Castings	251	...	4.5	3.3	[illegible]
165.70	Cathay Intl	39	-4	...	...	...
159.50	Celltech	223	-4	...	...	...
13.70	Chamberlin Hill	190	-5	6.5	4.3	11.9
531.50	Charter	[illegible]	-30	...	3.5	[illegible]
64.20	Chemring	350	-10	...	3.2	13.1
4.28	Chieftain Gp	30	-4	4.5	[illegible]	10.7
12.90	Chillington	40	-3	1.0	3.2	...
397.00	Christies Int	241	-2	...	3.9	34.1
11.10	[illegible]	47	-2	...	[illegible]	...
2.25	Clayton Son	95	-5	...	...	...
3.52	Cohen (A)	453	-23	3.4	6.9	...
92.30	Commalth H	282	-2	...	2.1	[illegible]
142.00	Concentric	361	-3	...	2.3	...
16.00	Cook (Wm)	304	-5	5.0	...	...
1,441.60	Cookson	277	-4	...	2.9	[illegible]
9.62	Copymore	51	-4	...	1.4	...
56.70	[illegible]	265	-2	...	4.3	...
16.60	Cosalt	146	-7	...	4.6	...
12.80	Creighton Nts	273	+8	7.4	3.4	19.5
84.20	[illegible]	35	+2	0.6	...	[illegible]
1,854.00	Dana	4037½	...	...	...	...
721.20	Danka Bs Sys	384	+29	...	2.5	36.5
167.90	David Brown	272	-3	...	2.6	[illegible]
1,828.80	De La Rue	962	-12	...	2.5	[illegible]
7.40	[illegible]	40	-4	1.1	3.4	[illegible]
348.80	Diploma	524	-1	...	2.4	[illegible]
114.40	Dobson Park	95 †	-1	...	4.5	23.9
1.21	Dyson (JJ)	134	+3	5.0	4.7	24.4
11.70	-do- 'A'	97	-3	5.0	6.5	17.6
7.49	EFG	16	...	...	...	...
191.40	EIS	434	-6	...	3.5	17.2
2.79	Elbief	22	...	...	...	...
14.90	Eleco	50	-3	...	...	...
2,345.80	Electrolux 'B'	3307½	-75	...	1.6	∞
29.80	Elliott (B)	88	-2	...	...	...
1,354.90	Eng China Cl	513	+4	...	4.9	29.9
19.90	Environmed	138	-5	...	...	...
5,350.60	Ericsson 'B'	2850	-203½	...	1.0	..
37.80	Eurocopy	78	-4	...	2.8	22.6
44.20	Expamet	70	-1	...	4.3	17
267.20	Fairey Group	770	-6	10.7	1.7	23.7
97.20	Fenner	141	+1	...	...	...
6.91	Ferraris Group	88	-2	...	2.8	13.0
3.12	Ferrum	10	...	1.4	17.5	7.0
6.84	Fife Indmar	65	...	...	5.3	...
877.70	Fisons	122	-9½	...	8.6	11.8
64.40	Flexitlon	55 †	-3	...	8.0	...
70.90	Fogas	288	...	...	3.4	13.1
74.10	Folkes Group nv	40	-2	1.5	4.1	26.1
14.60	French (Thomas)	125 †	+9	3.6	3.6	∞
180.20	Frost Group	256	-6	...	2.2	33.2
29.80	GEI Intl	81	+1	...	3.8	...
1,470.90	GKN	557	-30½	...	4.6	37.2
9.43	GR Hldgs	64	-3	...	3.5	...
4.89	Garton Eng	122	-6	4.1	4.2	...
345.00	Gestetner	184	+4	3.0	2.1	∞
14.10	Gieves	62	...	...	...	44.0
19,444.80	Glaxo	639	-27	...	4.3	16.7
10.40	Glenchewton	41	-3	...	...	...
777.60	Glynwed	376	-10	11.6	3.9	35.4
95.20	Goode Durrant	180 †	+10	...	3.8	...
123.00	Grampian Hd	178	-3	5.5	1.9	30.9
2,742.50	Granada	586 †	...	...	1.9	23.1
57.00	Great Sthrn	483	-1	11.4	3.0	19.9
6.32	Green (Ernst)	82	-1	...	10.7	12.4
24.30	Greenacre	17½	-1½	...	2.7	13.6
1.14	Guardian Grp	6	...	...	...	...
69.90	Haden MacLn	79½	-5	...	3.1	28.7
6.52	Hadleigh Inds	90	-1	1.0	1.4	...
97.00	Hall Eng	319	+4	8.6	3.4	35.6
481.40	Halma	242½	-11½	...	1.1	30.4
41.00	Hampson Ind	67 †	+2	1.7	3.2	22.1
14,616.90	Hanson	259½	-2½	...	4.9	21.5
16.80	Harris (Philip)	154	...	...	5.6	9.3
1,419.20	Harrisn Crsfld	304	-5	9.0	5.5	29.4
40.10	Havelock Euro	154	-1	...	...	...
7.05	Hay (Norman)	47	+7	...	...	...
7.73	Headway	48	-5	...	1.8	...
1.47	Healthcare	1½	...	...	...	...
1,182.90	Hepworth	489	+3	14.8	3.8	21.1
6.28	Hewitt (J)	185	...	3.2	2.2	14.5
2.74	Higgs-Poinx	55	...	0.5	1.1	...
55.60	Hill & Smith	196	-4	6.2	4.3	∞
25.40	Hobsons	22	+4	...	...	...
3.96	Holders Tech	191	...	6.0	3.9	24.9
43.70	Hopkinsons	56	-3	0.9	2.0	42.4
17.60	Hornby	215	...	9.0	5.2	20.3
278.80	Howden	99½	-2½	...	2.9	15.7
248.20	Hunting	258	-7	...	4.8	21.8
139.50	Huntgh Tech	493	-7	...	1.0	32.7
1,134.60	IMI	349	-10	...	3.6	31.0
51.20	ISA Intl	132	-3	1.5	1.5	20.5
38.40	Intercare Gp	146 †	-12	...	3.0	14.0
27.20	Isotron	300	+3	4.3	1.8	17.4
4,753.10	Jardine Math	666½	-37½	...	1.9	34.2
1,419.80	Johnson Matth	587	-9	...	2.2	22.9
66.00	Johnson & FB	47	+1	...	3.6	44.7
17.20	Johnston	163	-5	3.2	...	...
7.71	Jones Shipman	30	+2	...	...	...
6.29	Jourdan (T)	35	...	0.7	2.7	...
24.60	Kalon	187	+1	...	2.3	26.0
7.83	Kelsey Ind	253 †	...	6.0	3.9	∞
254.60	Kershaw (A)	790	-10	...	4.4	39.7
35.30	Kleeneze	254 †	+10	...	0.5	...
495.50	Laird	421	+4	...	3.1	20.7
45.70	Lilleshall	170	+9	...	3.2	22.4
15.00	Lincat	213	+1	...	3.5	15.0
10.70	Lincoln Hsee	42½	+½	...	...	35.0
15.40	Linread	126	-4	3.8	3.8	19.5
60.00	Linton Park	350	-3	...	5.0	12.6
24.00	Lionheart	12½	-1½	0.2	2.0	...
5.70	Locker (T) A	19	-1	0.8	5.6	27.6
257.20	Lon Intl	152	-10	6.2	5.1	...
1,213.90	Lonrho	158 †	-11½	...	3.2	43.4
390.40	Low & Bonar	400	+5	...	2.9	56.0
67.80	ML Hdgs	45	-2	...	...	...
17.00	MS Intl	62 †	...	...	5.0	38.0
26.40	MY Holdings	64	-5	...	2.4	16.9
193.50	Macfarlane	256	-13	...	1.6	29.0
496.90	McKechnie	535	+1	...	3.4	25.8
72.00	McLeod Russel	119	...	...	6.4	17.6
5.79	Magnolia	101	-3	0.1	0.1	16.2
24.10	Mang Bronze	146	...	...	2.1	24.2
43.40	Marling	24½	...	...	4.3	...
43.80	Mayborn	221	-8	5.2	2.9	17.0
122.80	Mayflower	62	-2	...	0.9	51.8
447.00	Medeva	162½	-12½	...	1.8	13.2
254.60	Meggitt	118	-1	...	4.1	20.1
104.90	Metalrax	127	-4	...	3.7	20.8
30.90	Metrotect	128 †	-4	...	3.2	17.8
17.80	Meseca	115	+7	...	...	...
39.90	[illegible]	117	-4	...	0.8	16.3
371.40	Molins	553	-4	...	3.3	13.3
857.50	Morgan Cruc	395	-6	...	4.0	20.7
23.80	Morris Ashley	204	-1	5.7	3.5	15.3
7.60	Neepsend	48	-2	1.0	2.6	64.4
56.10	Nestor-BNA	75	-2	3.1	5.2	17.9
24.80	Nobo Gp	344 †	+5	5.3	2.7	24.1
549.70	Norcros	195 †	-1	...	4.5	28.5
25.25	Novo Group	32	-2	...	4.3	10.3
147.20	Nu-Swift	399	...	...	..	∞
2.52	Office Elec Mac	46	-4	...	...	...
24.20	OMI Intl	59 †	-4	...	3.7	...
4.95	[illegible]	165	...	7.2	5.4	19.1
3.75	Pacer Systems	40	-3	...	5.4	...
3.57	[illegible]	36	+3	...	...	...
124.30	Pentland	11	-4	...	3.0	15.1
114.20	[illegible]	293 †	+5	4.7	2.0	17.6
1,557.50	Pilkington	195 †	+9½	...	1.6	...
136.30	[illegible]	105	-1	3.1	3.7	16.7
275.40	[illegible]	178	...	2.1	1.5	24.1
32.70	Porter Chadburn	32	-7	...	[illegible]	10.1
277.50	Powerscreen	320	-5	...	[illegible]	16.6
24.80	Prospect Inds	32	...	...	4.7	12.5
4.35	RPS Group	73	+3	2.3	4.1	15.5
[illegible]	Radiant Metal	90	...	...	...	...
24.60	[illegible]	146	-10½	1.0	0.9	49.1
3,424.20	Rank Org	847	-14	...	3.7	22.7
[illegible]	Ransomes	[illegible]	-3	...	...	...
2,442.50	Reckitt Colm	576	-7	...	2.1	15.6
27.60	Record	83	...	3.6	5.4	40.8
3.73	[illegible]	4½	-½	...	...	...
59.60	[illegible]	284	+1	5.0	2.2	34.1
47.30	[illegible]	206	+2	...	2.7	36.4
90.10	Renold	177	-1	...	1.6	...
5,452.00	[illegible]	2022	-97	...	1.9	28.0
[illegible]	[illegible]	95	...	2.6	3.0	...
39.70	Ricardo Group	189	-9	...	3.3	26.8
9.46	Richards [illegible]	70	-3	3.7	6.7	...
37.50	Richardson West	106	+2	3.0	3.6	22.2
9.51	Rotork	146	+2	8.2	7.1	20.7
[illegible]	-do- 'A'	142	+2	8.2	7.3	20.1
25.50	Ross Gp	29½	-2	0.6	4.0	9.4
194.20	[illegible]	187	-3	...	2.5	21.9
72.40	[illegible]	165	-5	...	3.3	20.6
15.70	Russell (A)	72	-2	...	0.9	...
27.90	SEP Inds	37 †	...	0.8	2.7	∞
748.20	SKF B	1175	-137½	...	...	...
[illegible]	[illegible]	261	-9	...	2.7	19.5
[illegible]	[illegible]	207	+2	...	3.9	15.1
[illegible]	[illegible]	263	-12	...	...	...
52.70	[illegible]	1375	-15	...	0.5	36.1
429.20	-do- 'A'	1020	-16	...	0.4	23.9
[illegible]	[illegible]	970	-20	5.6	0.8	∞
37.30	Senior Eng	146½	-6	...	2.7	24.8
[illegible]	[illegible] Health	371	-4	...	2.3	19.5
8.49	[illegible]	148	-2	3.0	2.6	16.0
[illegible]	[illegible]	771	+1	...	4.0	16.4
2,446.20	[illegible]	572 †	-10	...	2.3	20.2
178.40	[illegible]	379	+2	...	2.6	20.5
[illegible]	[illegible]	161	+8	...	3.1	17.4
122.70	[illegible] Eng	122	-2	...	...	...
[illegible]	[illegible]	225	-7	...	3.7	18.3
[illegible]	[illegible]	44	...	...	4.3	...
1,546.70	Smith & Neph	149	-4	...	4.0	20.4
1,062.40	[illegible]	409	-17	9.6	3.0	14.8
4,475.30	[illegible]	380	-11	...	3.2	12.9
1,424.90	[illegible] Ind	477	-5	...	3.1	19.1
[illegible]	[illegible]	96	+5	...	4.5	5.0
[illegible]	Spandera	573	+3	...	1.4	25.7
31.20	Spear (JW)	600	+120	4.5	0.9	11.2
308.40	Spirax-Sarco	390	-8	...	2.9	25.0
330.40	Spring Ram	73 †	+½	...	0.9	...
287.80	Staveley	232	-1	...	4.2	14.2
67.80	Sterling Ind	242 †	+1	...	3.0	37.1
238.50	Suter	217	-3	9.0	5.5	22.7
	Swire Pacific 'A'	549½	-24½	...	1.7	∞
13.40	Sycamore	4	...	...	...	...
5.39	Sykes-Pick	53	-2	3.0	7.3	10.1
29.80	Syltone	178 †	+2	...	3.4	25.7
1,896.60	TI	407	-18	...	3.3	27.8
13.70	TLS Range	38	-2	0.2	0.8	...
373.40	TT Group	385	-9	...	2.3	22.5
340.80	Talcure	272	+4	...	0.8	23.7
7,090.30	Takeda Chem	810½	-4½	...	0.8	15.4
2.93	Tex Hldgs	46	-5	...	...	...
7.14	Tinsley (E)	99	-2	...	7.1	17.1
24.00	Titon	220 †	...	...	3.4	18.3
2,940.30	Tomkins	263 †	...	...	3.1	19.4
1,235.30	Trafalgar H	116	-2	...	3.5	...
529.80	Do 6pc Cv Pf	149½	+½	...	5.0	...
99.30	Transfer Tech	104	+1	3.2	3.8	13.1
100.00	Triplex Lloyd	155 †	-6	...	5.6	18.6
435.80	UniChem	305	-7	6.4	2.6	20.0
84.20	Unidare	435 †	+10	...	2.9	∞
11.50	Unigroup	37	...	...	...	...
9,882.00	Unilever	1217	-16	22.2	2.3	16.5
12,871.70	Unilever (NV)	8012½	-56½	...	2.6	13.3
5.78	Utd Inds	15½	-½	...	...	...
403.60	VSEL	1065	+12	...	3.6	11.5
38.00	Verson	26½	-2½	...	...	...
591.70	Vickers	180	-10	...	1.6	...
140.60	Victaulic	318	-9	...	3.1	15.7
210.30	Vinten	513	-9	...	1.8	23.9
229.60	Vosper Thorny	743	-4	...	2.8	17.2
4.89	WSP Hldgs	46	...	...	7.3	12.0
234.50	Wagon Ind	508 †	+3	...	4.3	22.4
35.50	Wakebourne	4½	+1	...	...	23.2
108.80	Walker Greenbk	113	...	3.1	3.4	28.8
427.30	Wassall	280	-6	2.7	1.2	28.3
333.10	Watford Wdgwd	47	-3	...	...	...
549.00	Weir	351	-13	...	2.2	19.8
5,583.50	Wellcome	644	-8	...	3.4	13.7
8.54	Wellman	26½	-1	0.9	4.2	43.3
198.90	West Hlthcare	390	-4	...	1.2	25.1
125.30	Whatman	347	-12	9.7	2.2	18.5
76.20	Whessoe	262	+5	...	3.9	12.4
47.70	Whitecroft	109	-1	...	...	...
17.10	Widney	12½	+½	...	...	...
29.10	Wilkes (James)	165	+22	3.5	...	48.3
1,929.60	Williams Hldg	393	+3	12.5	4.0	20.6
34.70	Wilshaw	43	-1	...	1.6	27.1
2,357.60	Wolseley	883	-20	...	1.9	26.4
3.10	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	1.5	1.2	56.5
14.20	Wyko	44	+2	...	1.4	...
14.40	Young (H)	87	+2	...	4.7	...

INSURANCE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
544.40	Alex & Alex	1425	-68½	...	4.7	...
3,886.40	Am Gen	1793½	-69½	...	4.3	...
25.20	Archer	69 †	-7	...	1.8	...
90.10	Bradstock	153	-9	...	4.6	16.8
935.10	Britannic	495	-43	...	2.9	...
3,591.80	Com Union	646	-27	...	4.7	...
120.40	Dom & Gen	1770	...	...	1.6	23.4
148.60	FAI	60	-4	...	0.8	...
68.10	Fenchurch Grp	193	+1	...	4.7	17.2
2,972.10	Gen Accident	659	-35	26.7	5.1	...
1,970.40	GRE	227	-13	7.1	3.9	18.8
383.80	Heath C E	438	-9	...	4.6	...
87.50	Hogg Gp	135	-4	8.1	7.5	12.2
130.90	Independent Ins	299	-6	...	3.4	22.5
226.90	JIB Group	187	-2	...	5.0	19.2
2,440.10	Legal & Gen	499	-18	...	4.9	30.3
2,803.10	Liberty Life	1203½	-39½	...	2.6	19.1
310.80	LIMIT	111	-2	...	...	...
2,954.10	Lloyds Abbey	439	-7	...	5.3	13.7
195.40	Lloyd Thomp	289	-13	6.7	2.9	18.0
490.00	Londn & Man	406	-3	14.7	4.5	28.9
131.20	Lowndes Lmb	462	-9	14.0	3.8	16.6
4,111.70	Marsh McLn	5606½	-125	...	3.2	...
80.90	Nelson Hurst	179	+2	...	3.9	17.9
23.70	Orion	115	-2	...	5.4	...
23.60	PWS	77 †	-3	...	6.5	14.3
6,372.70	Prudential	337	-19	...	4.6	22.4
999.40	Refuge	383	-9½	...	3.5	42.7
2,044.30	Royal	315	-19	...	2.6	...
962.90	Sedgwick	187	-3	...	4.0	23.0
54.30	Steel Burrill	116	-8	...	12.9	6.9
43.00	Sturge Hldgs	85 †	-1	...	4.4	72.2
3,090.80	Sun Alliance	383	-21	14.2	4.7	...
166.30	Trade Indemnty	91	+2	...	...	...
1,394.80	Transatlantic	463	+1	12.0	3.2	42.9
541.20	Utd Friendly	660	+1	15.1	2.9	28.8
935.60	Willis Corroon	224	+4	...	3.7	32.1
7.44	Windsor	22	-1	...	..	17.3

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
996.90	Alliance	1978	-68	45.5	2.9	...
76.80	BZW Conv	152	-4½	7.5	6.4	...
312.90	Bankers	202 †	-13	...	2.3	...
191.30	Baring Tribune	373	-8	6.4	2.2	...
12.50	Berry Starq	240	+2	2.2	1.1	...
426.20	Br Assets	111	-4½	...	4.8	...
123.70	Br Empire Sec	93	-4½	...	1.2	...
4.92	-do- Wnts	37	-8	...	...	...
714.50	Br Inv	229	-2	4.6	2.5	...
171.30	Brunner	268	-4	[illegible]	2.5	∞
44.90	Contl Asset	207	-3	3.0	1.8	∞
17.70	Derby Inc	150 †	+2	...	13.1	∞
44.90	-do- Cap	293	-15	...	...	...
12.30	Drayton Blue	97	+½	8.4	10.5	...
52.90	-do- Eng Ind	108	-2	1.0	1.2	...
168.90	-do- Far East	146	-5½	0.6	0.6	∞
39.10	-do- Korea	165½	-5½	0.5	0.4	...
242.50	Dunedn Inc G	765	-15	...	4.2	...
39.20	-do- Japan	98	-5½	...	...	...
5.44	-do- Warrants	68	-6	...	...	...
267.30	-do- Wwde	798	-27	...	1.5	...
55.30	Dundee & Lon	329	-11	...	3.4	...
975.40	Edinburgh	333	-22	8.5	3.2	...
571.20	Electra Inv	730 †	-19	...	2.7	...
198.00	Electric Gen	208	-12	3.1	1.9	...
1.61	English Scot	124	-3	...	...	...
47.50	European Asset	356	-8	...	1.6	∞
40.60	Finsbury 'A'	169	-2	3.0	2.2	...
214.80	Fleming Amer	324½	-13	1.5	0.6	∞
65.40	Fleming Chinese	109	-11	...	...	...
7.80	-do- Warrants	65	-15	...	...	...
172.70	-do- Claver	249	-17	5.5	2.9	∞
246.20	Do Cont	377	-6	2.7	0.9	...
102.40	-do- Emrg	256	-8	...	2.4	...
598.20	-do- F East	389	-35	[illegible]	0.4	...
50.40	-do- Fledg	400	-19	3.0	0.9	...
34.20	-do- Ft Inc	106	-8	...	5.2	...
303.30	-do- Japan	263	-5	...	0.2	...
475.40	-do- Merc	329	-17	6.7	2.5	...
446.20	-do- Overs	338	-11½	4.2	1.6	...
1,524.00	Foreign & Col	290	-13½	...	1.5	...
134.00	-do- Emg Mkts	134	-11½	0.2	0.3	...
69.10	-do- Enterprise	77½	-3½	0.4	0.7	...
153.60	-do- Eurotst	256	-2	...	0.6	...
48.30	-do- German	123	-5	0.5	0.5	...
371.80	-do- Pacific	351	-20	...	0.7	...
213.70	-do- Smaller	186½	-5	1.9	1.2	...
171.00	GT Japan	274 †	-9	...	0.6	...
32.90	Genl Cons Cap	181	-11	...	...	...
39.80	-do- Inc	110	-1½	8.7	10.1	∞
42.90	Govett Am Smlr	172	-16½	...	...	...
34.10	-do- Emg Mkts	142	-9	...	...	...
49.90	Govett High Inc	90	-5½	...	...	...
700.40	-do- Oriental	390	-27	0.9	0.3	...
323.10	-do- Strategy	329	-16	...	2.6	...
54.60	Greenfriar	475	+4	0.6	1.3	∞
0.81	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
378.50	Inv Cap	153 †	-4	...	4.2	...
32.30	IAS UK Smllr	111	-6	2.8	3.2	...
196.70	Kleinwort Chrt	330½	-9½	5.1	2.8	∞
204.90	-do- O'seas	255	-15	3.4	1.7	∞
21.50	-do- Smlr	165	...	...	2.7	...
177.10	Law Debenture	280	-38	18.5	3.0	...
117.60	Majedie	224	-3	...	2.4	...
311.00	Merchants	304 †	-18½	...	4.5	...
8,968.00	Merrill Lynch	2787½	-169½	...	...	...
431.30	Monks Inv Tst	556	-32	...	1.5	...
34.60	Morg Gren Inc	142	-15	...	4.0	...
2.71	Do Warrants	36	-8	...	...	...
36.60	Murray Ent	138	-10	...	1.8	∞
50.50	-do- Pf 1994	£280	-500	...	...	...
2.36	-do- Warrants	49	-9	...	...	...
19.20	Murray Euro	64	-2½	0.1	0.3	...
1.39	Do Wts	21½	-1	...	...	...
311.10	Murray Incme	369	-22	10.9	3.7	...
441.10	-do- Intl	357 †	-24	11.8	4.0	...
300.70	-do- Small	536	-11	...	1.9	...
7.20	-do- S/C Inc	90	-4	...	[illegible]	...
8.62	-do- S/C Cap	154	-16	...	...	...
1.76	-do- S/C Uts	3400	...	...	3.9	...
18.10	-do- S/C DP	157½	-1½	...	...	...
83.50	-do- Vent	338	-23	...	4.0	...
36.00	Nwthrug Inc	92 †	-½	8.7	9.2	...
144.00	O'seas Inv Tst	378	-31	...	1.9	...
102.60	Pacific Assets	519	-67	1.1	0.3	...
14.40	Do Warrants	425	-66	...	...	...
14.20	Personal Assets	9300	+150	19.0	2.6	...
326.50	RIT Cap Ptnr	181	-4	1.1	0.8	...
24.10	River & Merc	120	-3	9.2	9.6	...
	Robeco	448	-18	...	2.8	...
	Rolinco	463	+34	...	1.7	...
117.30	St Andrew Inv	341	+9	7.8	2.9	∞
387.90	Scot American	173½	-6	4.6	3.4	∞
65.50	Scott Asian	312	-21	...	...	...
6.60	do Warrants	943	-42	...	...	...
570.20	-do- Eastern	90	-5	1.5	2.1	...
615.90	Scottish	242 †	-17	4.9	2.5	∞
872.90	-do- Mtge	242	-16½	4.0	2.1	...
64.90	-do- Value	129	-4½	...	1.7	...
328.70	Second Allnce	1712	-78	...	2.8	...
313.90	Secs Tst of Scot	98	-5½	3.2	4.1	...
49.90	Selective Assets	172½	-6½	1.4	1.1	∞
37.00	Sphere Inv	47 †	-2½	3.4	9.0	∞
86.60	TR Far East	180	-10	...	3.5	...
321.50	TR City Of Lon	161½	-14	...	5.0	...
136.00	TR Pacific	200	-16½	0.3	3.7	...
110.20	TR Property	39½	-3	0.9	0.2	...
53.40	TR Tech Inv	147	-5	1.7	2.0	...
395.60	TR Smlr Cos	222	-4	...	1.5	...
217.70	Temple Bar	380	-25	13.2	2.2	...
117.50	Thrmtn Asian E	117½	-9½	0.5	4.4	...
206.20	Throgmorton	97½	-2	2.3	0.5	...
18.70	Thrng Dual Cp	535	...	...	2.9	...
94.20	USDC Invest	257½	-10½	4.5	2.2	...
54.40	Value Inc Tst	127	-1	4.0	3.9	...
923.20	Witan	246 †	-8	5.8	2.9	∞

LEISURE

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
528.90	Airtours	573 †	-12	...	2.0	19.6
29.40	Ald Leis	46	+1	...	8.2	15.0
289.20	Anglia TV	644 †	-6	...	1.8	29.8
24.80	Baldwin	130	+20	3.5	3.4	∞
28.60	Barr & W 'A'	287	-1	10.0	4.4	18.5
50.70	Boosey Hwks	1300	-75	22.0	2.1	19.5
17.30	Border TV	169 †	-6	3.6	2.7	13.8
18.40	Brent Walker	5½	+½	...	...	...
8.19	Bristol Scotts	135	-5	...	...	...
6.53	Buckingham Int	5½	+½	...	...	...
7.07	Campari	68	-4	8.7	16.1	...
294.20	Capital Radio	415	-11	...	1.7	36.6
2,233.70	Carlton Comm	984	-29	...	2.4	23.2
20.20	Castle Comm	289	-3	...	3.6	19.8
821.80	Central TV	3058	-15	39.0	1.6	33.3
37.90	Chrysalis	145 †	+7	3.2	2.8	...
668.50	Compass Gp	742	-6	...	2.2	20.5
71.00	Eurocamp	270	...	9.7	4.5	11.1
701.00	Euro Disney	412½	+31½	...	2.8	...
25.80	Euro Leisure	3½	+½	...	...	...
30.40	Ex-Lands	40	-1½	...	1.1	...
12.90	Fairline Boats	369	-23	...	3.6	34.1
542.50	First Leisure	333	-12	6.5	2.5	∞
141.70	Flextech	413	-35	0.5	0.2	...
59.90	GWR Gp	945	-3	9.0	1.2	∞
38.60	Grampian	274	+5	6.5	3.0	19.0
1.26	Greenwich Comm	18	+1	...	...	...
84.30	HTV Group	122	-5	...	...	54.2
42.30	Hi-Tec Sports	87	...	...	3.2	...
41.50	Kunick	17½	...	...	...	16.2
772.70	LWT Hldgs	747	+45	...	0.8	34.6
75.00	Man Utd	615	+2	...	4.0	24.8
13.60	Northern	42	-4	...	...	8.1
300.60	Owners Abrd	123	+23	3.5	3.6	∞
39.00	The Pelican Gp	86	-2	1.1	1.6	20.2
15.20	Prism Leisure	181 †	-2	3.5	2.4	16.8
8.19	Quadrant Grp	35	...	...	...	...
51.30	Radio Clyde	570	-8	...	2.1	25.4
12.90	Ramsdens (H)	215	-12	4.5	2.7	∞
264.60	Scot TV	549	+9	10.3	2.4	27.0
49.00	SelecTV	34	+½	...	...	...
27.20	Southern Radio	96	-11	...	1.6	42.5
167.60	Stanley Leisure	315	-8	...	2.1	25.5
8.11	Sunset & Vine	142	-1	3.5	3.1	21.7
647.20	Tanjong	345½	...	...	0.5	18.7
17.70	Ticketing	2	-½	...	...	...
13.90	Tottenhm Hot	87 †	-2	...	2.9	4.6
51.50	Trans World	132	+2	0.8	0.8	48.1
73.80	Ulster TV	700	+25	12.0	2.1	21.6
98.00	Vardon	134	+7	0.8	0.7	31.6
177.40	Yorkshire TV	352	+80	3.3	1.2	...
7.23	Zetters Gp	110 †	-1	8.0	9.1	12.4

MINING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1,301.10	Am Gold	5387½	-503½	...	4.2	24.1
456.60	Ang Am Coal	1812½	-31½	...	5.1	9.4
6,498.20	Ang Am	2798½	-458½	...	2.5	23.7
22.50	Anglo Pac Res	29	-1	...	...	...
51.10	Bakyrchik	341	-19	...	...	...
27.20	Blyvoors	113½	-19	...	...	...
4.32	Bracken	30½	-2½	...	28.7	5.4
78.10	Buffels	710 †	-66½	...	9.1	6.3
8.82	Butte	3½	-½	...	...	...
5,452.80	CRA	919	+6	...	2.3	29.4
34.90	Cluff Res	48	+½	...	...	...
6,107.00	De Beers	1608½	-112½	...	3.1	21.8
112.60	Deelkraal	113½	-17	...	1.8	8.3
16.50	Doornfontein	41½	-5½	...	...	...
1,483.10	Driefontein	727	-115½	...	4.6	12.0
13.90	Durban	590½	-18½	...	...	...
54.40	E Rand Gold	118½	-15	...	9.2	3.5
130.50	E Rand Prop	98½	+10½	...	...	...
348.40	Elandsrand	359½	-74½	...	5.6	∞
1,083.80	FS Cons	911	-82	...	7.1	11.7
9.11	FS Dev	41	-2	...	...	...
1,254.30	GFSA	1300 †	-181½	...	3.1	21.8
1,600.70	Gencor	116½	-10½	...	7.7	13.0
399.20	GM Kalgoorli	74½	-2½	...	1.8	30.7
15.10	Greenwich R 'A'	18½	+1½	...	...	...
13.30	Grootvlei	116½	-23½	...	8.5	7.3
101.40	Harmony	377	-20	...	...	...
407.00	Hartbes	363½	-30½	...	7.8	9.1
40.30	Inco	19½	+1	...	...	...
540.90	Impala Plat	856½	-21½	...	3.3	27.5
10.30	Kenmare Res	13½	-1	...	...	...
180.10	Kinross	1000 †	-84½	...	6.2	11.1
877.20	Kloof	633	-151½	...	3.9	7.5
14.60	Leslie	91½	+1	...	12.4	4.9
35.90	Loraine	214½	-9	...	...	...
146.30	Lydenburg	925	+5	...	2.3	...
2,022.20	MIM	144½	-½	...	1.6	62.8
2,863.70	Minorco	1271	-214	...	3.1	15.0
1,184.10	Nth Brkn Hill	179	-17½	...	2.8	27.5
527.60	Orange Free	2343½	-184½	...	5.4	13.8
9,073.80	RTZ	852	-11	...	2.9	24.1
111.80	Rand Mines	187½	...	...	6.0	7.1
358.20	Randfontein	589½	-56½	...	7.0	5.9
513.00	Renison	258	-37	...	1.8	26.7
1,426.50	Rustnbrg	1137½	+9½	...	2.8	28.0
56.30	St Helena	590½	-48½	...	7.2	12.4
455.90	Southvaal	1753½	-225	...	5.5	∞
10.60	Stilfontein	81 †	+2½	...	25.9	15.1
34.20	Unisel	122 †	-10½	...	3.6	11.7
6,723.90	Vaal Reefs	5043½	-846½	...	4.9	∞
213.20	Welkom	603	-46	...	5.6	13.4
215.60	Western Areas	534½	-62½	...	4.9	3.7
673.20	Western Deep	2428½	-181½	...	4.6	∞
3,993.30	Wstrn Mining	374½	-14½	...	1.3	...
97.90	Winkels	1037	-106½	...	5.7	7.7
79.70	Zambia Copper	65	+1	...	...	...
69.00	Zandpan	53	-9	...	8.8	17.5

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
4.86	Abbey Panels	243	...	...	...	...
9.82	Airflow Stream	115	...	3.0	3.3	11.1
101.90	Appleyard	166	-6	...	3.9	...
17.40	Bletchley Mtr	378	+3	...	3.0	19.2
56.30	Bostrom	230	+20	6.0	3.3	40.7
2,052.50	Br Aerospace	543	-32	7.3	1.7	...
56.00	Burndene	53 †	+1	...	4.1	14.2
14.90	Caffyns	460	-13	11.5	3.2	23.8
37.40	Coverdale	20½	+2½	...	...	...
17.40	Central Mtrs	130	+6	4.0	3.9	∞
17.20	Cook (DC)	40	-1	0.9	2.8	22.7
473.70	Cowie (T)	331	-16	6.6	2.5	25.2
32.00	Dag Motors	189	+20	5.7	3.8	34.2
29.10	Davnprt Vern	155	+2	4.2	3.4	∞
32.00	ERF	326	-3	2.0	0.8	...
63.80	European Mtr	170	-3	...	2.7	23.9
107.60	Evans Halshaw	498	...	11.4	2.9	76.7
216.40	FR Group	287	-1	...	3.1	13.4
22,200.40	Ford Motor	4512½	-150	...	...	...
30,464.50	General Mtr	4287½	+56½	...	1.2	...
7.98	Gowrings	88	+11	2.0	2.8	...
135.70	Henlys	340	-2	3.5	1.3	...
10,136.50	Honda Motor	1041	+49½	...	0.8	...
4.05	Jacks (Wm)	43	...	...	...	...
9.03	Jessups	43	-20	4.5	6.0	...
301.00	Kwik-Fit	175	-9	...	2.5	24.7
510.40	Lex Service	539	-18	...	2.6	29.5
51.50	Lookers	269	+10	6.5	3.1	∞
1,637.20	Lucas	220½	-7½	...	4.0	...
25.30	Malaya Grp	28½	-½	...	...	...
116.90	Pendragon	303	-1	...	2.6	24.9
58.70	Perry Gp	234	-4	...	3.8	...
48.90	Quicks Group	213	+3	...	2.8	27.2
2,193.50	Rolls-Royce	179½	+2½	...	3.5	...
1,210.50	T & N	241	-1	...	5.6	34.3
153.20	Trinity Hldgs	298	...	...	2.3	27.9
108.50	Vardy (Reg)	220	+4	...	2.5	25.7
319.30	Westland	333 †	-28	...	1.7	23.3

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
48.70	Adscene	320	+15	5.7	2.2	32.5
5.20	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
351.40	Blenheim Gp	359	+8	...	3.3	13.4
65.50	Bristol	402	+2	...	3.7	36.3
673.80	Daily Mail	£1344	+175	...	1.4	31.5
672.50	Daily Mail 'A'	£1343	+150	...	1.4	31.4
163.50	Dorling Kind	265	-8	...	1.6	24.0
4,282.20	Elsevier	649½	+125	...	1.4	22.3
801.60	EMAP	462	-3	...	2.2	28.5
318.50	Euromoney Pb	1550	+7	...	3.1	27.3
19.00	Harrington K	199	-4	4.7	3.1	15.4
74.70	Haynes Pub	478	-5	...	1.9	26.7
134.50	Hodder H'line	385	+20	5.1	1.7	32.8
16.90	Home Counts	169	-4	5.2	3.9	...
73.40	Ind Bus Comm	188	+4	...	...	27.2
6.78	Int Cm & Data	10½	-2	...	...	...
380.40	Independent	485	-15	...	2.6	26.2
198.70	Johnstne Press	645	+7	6.5	1.3	22.9
34.70	Metal Bulletn	356	...	8.2	2.9	25.1
741.50	Mirror Gp	185	-5	...	...	...
9,152.30	News Corp	497½	-3	...	0.3	...
2,044.20	News Intl	290	-14	...	0.6	18.2
3,823.90	Pearson	694	-18	...	2.2	37.7
91.00	Portsmth Sund	758	+3	...	1.6	30.9
5,183.60	Reed Int	924	-18	...	2.4	40.3
38.30	Southnews	249	...	2.3	1.2	46.0
63.90	Sterling Pub	196	+1	...	2.0	35.5
705.70	Telegraph	568	-10	...	2.6	23.9
4,754.90	Thomson Corp	835	-40	30.1	4.5	41.3
315.10	Trinity Intl	460	-1	9.0	2.4	27.6
1.63	Unit Group	30	...	...	...	...
1,749.00	Utd Nwspaprs	718	-4	...	3.7	19.0

OILS, GAS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
73.20	Aran Energy	28	+1½	...	...	27.3
24.70	Arcon Intl	43	-3	...	...	...
	Aus Oil & Gas	70½	+1	...	...	...
18.60	Awva Pet	59	-1	...	...	...
2.96	Beverley	8½	...	...	...	...
102.20	Br Borneo	327	-5	7.1	3.9	6.9
14,498.50	British Gas	335	-12	14.2	5.3	16.2
20,452.50	Br Petroleum	375	-8½	...	2.8	31.6
22.50	Bula Resources	3	-½	...	...	...
1,671.20	Burmah Castl	857	-4	...	3.7	20.0
38.20	Cairn Energy	59	-2	...	...	8.4
575.90	Calor Gp	342	-12	...	4.4	18.7
175.70	Clyde Pet	44	-3	...	...	...
44.40	Coplex Res	26½	-½	...	...	...
4.43	Edin Oil & Gas	29½	-1½	...	...	...
2,174.60	Enterprise	442	-31	...	4.9	34.3
51.40	Exp Co Louis	49	+5	...	...	...
64.70	Fairhaven Intl	26½	-½	...	...	...
68.80	Fortune	6½	-½	...	4.0	9.6
51.80	Goal Pet	61	+½	1.4	2.9	11.7
34.40	Gt Western Res	38	...	...	...	...
176.10	Hardy O & G	156	-2	...	0.8	14.5
74.10	Kelt Energy	48	-2	...	...	...
945.60	LASMO	136	-10	...	3.3	25.5
4.82	-do- Units	68	...	9.4	17.4	...
6.31	Mid Scot Res	4	-2	...	...	...
418.50	Monument	63	...	...	...	...
7.67	New London	6½	...	1.0	4.3	...
15.30	Nth Sea Assets	25	...	...	...	...
146.90	Oil Search	48	-1	...	...	...
	Petrol	27	-5	...	...	...
83.60	Pict Pet	162	...	...	...	...
144.90	Premier	26½	-1½	...	4.2	...
20.20	Presidio	158	...	...	4.4	...
364.20	Ranger	370	-20	...	4.1	19.7
39,604.10	Royal Dtch Pl	7387½	-196½	...	2.0	...
4,538.60	Schlumberger	3937½	-90	...	...	...
28.20	Seafield	55	...	...	...	...
24,531.00	Shell	740	+18	22.8	3.9	[illegible]
3.05	Sunrise Eng Sr	135	-5	...	...	...
27.20	Triton Europe	33	...	...	...	...
21.20	Villiers Grp	18	...	...	...	...
1,505.50	Woodside	229½	+1½	...	1.6	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
32.80	AG Holdings	182	-2	...	3.6	[illegible]
90.70	API	434 †	-8	...	2.4	[illegible]
2,393.20	Arjo Wiggins	294	+15	...	2.8	[illegible]
105.00	Abbott Mead	700	+67	0.5	1.7	36.9
205.60	Aegis Gp	25½	-1	...	...	...
27.80	Aspen Comms	203	+2	4.9	3.0	18.4
1.99	BBB Design	24	...	...	...	...
140.60	Bemrose	404	+11	...	2.6	22.3
10.90	Birkdale	12	-1	...	...	...
716.20	Bunzl	169	-1	4.0	3.0	25.3
49.10	CIA Gp	420	-10	4.4	1.3	26.5
48.10	Capital Inds	134	-4	...	2.6	16.6
6.95	City of Lon	90	+2	...	5.3	16.6
34.60	Cropper (James)	419	+65	3.2	1.0	40.5
8.98	Delyn Group	106	-2	1.6	2.0	14.5
30.70	Dolphin Pack	130	-5	4.5	4.2	32.1
9.69	Dudley Jenkins	81	-2	...	4.9	17.5
28.30	Elswick	13½	-½	...	2.7	15.4
28.00	Fairway Group	91	...	3.2	4.5	26.8
131.20	Ferguson Intl	405	-4	...	3.3	18.3
19.50	Ferry Pick	145	+5	...	4.8	39.1
51.90	Filofax	221	-4	...	3.9	25.4
4.27	Fitch	12	-2½	...	...	...
13.30	Gibbon Lyons	147 †	-2	5.2	4.4	16.6
65.70	Gold Greenless	250	-9	8.4	4.3	22.3
12.10	Goodhead	30	-2	...	0.2	∞
11.60	Hunterprint	20	-3	...	...	...
7.83	Intereurope	152	-8	...	6.5	11.0
91.90	Jarvis Porter	299	-1	...	2.1	26.9
16.40	Lopex	31	-3	...	...	...
11.80	MMI	37½	-1	...	...	...
137.10	More O'Ferrall	423	-6	13.2	3.9	30.6
59.90	NMC Group	136	-5	2.7	2.5	21.0
18.10	Osborne & Little	297	-3	...	2.1	32.6
13.60	Osprey Comms	52	-7	...	0.2	...
372.00	Portals	574	...	...	3.2	19.8
7.95	Premier Hlth	2½	+½	...	...	...
58.50	Quarto	318	+2	...	2.3	19.4
397.00	St Ives Gp	401	+25	...	1.7	26.5
319.10	Saatchi	145	-8	...	...	...
755.30	Sappi	503	-23	...	6.6	9.5
21.50	Seril	29	+½	...	...	...
45.80	Shandwick	54½	+½	...	...	...
777.60	Smith David	508 †	-7	...	2.5	34.3
1,668.10	Smurfit (Jeff)	343	-6	...	1.5	8.2
2.38	Sonic	119	...	2.5	2.6	48.3
52.90	Stat-Plus	246	+4	8.4	4.3	21.9
67.80	Taylor Nelson	31	...	0.3	1.3	26.0
11.00	VTR	140	-1	...	3.3	[illegible]
609.00	WPP	117	-2	...	1.1	∞
190.50	Wace	240	-12	...	0.5	...
204.30	Waddington (J)	254	...	...	4.0	19.0
318.80	Watmough	478	...	...	1.5	37.5
5.44	Wespore	4½	-½	...	...	...
2.38	Whitney Mcks	36	...	...	...	...
16.90	Wyndeham	103 †	...	...	1.5	22.1

PROPERTY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
89.10	Allied Lon	128	-1	...	3.4	33.2
33.50	Arcadian	48	...	...	...	...
31.60	Ascot Hldgs	8½	-½	...	...	...
110.20	Asda	140	-4	...	1.9	14.7
79.90	Avonside	184	-7	4.1	2.8	25.7
7,493.80	BCR	2446½	+12½	...	...	...
333.60	Bilton	760	-3	18.9	3.1	27.5
50.50	Bourne End	95	+1	...	1.3	...
392.30	Bradford	273	-2	5.9	2.7	27.7
7.34	Brederc	20	-2	...	...	...
1,362.20	Br Land	453 †	-3	...	2.0	41.3
586.20	Brixton	253	-15	...	4.2	20.0
197.80	Burford	121	+6	...	1.5	∞
65.40	Cap & Regnl	216	+3	1.3	0.8	...
7.44	Cardiff Prop	270 †	...	2.5	1.2	...
281.60	Chelsfield	180	-1	...	1.7	...
129.90	Chesterfield	663	+13	11.5	2.2	47.4
10.60	City Site Est	69	-6	...	...	...
16.30	Clarke Nickolls	30	...	...	...	...
5.93	Compco	285	...	12.9	6.0	61.8
35.90	Conrad Rbist GS	60	...	...	...	...
286.10	Daejan	1755 †	+50	...	1.9	21.7
7.17	Darts Estates	20½	-2½	...	...	...
64.40	Debenhm Twsn	155 †	+5	...	2.7	29.4
7.08	De Morgan	15	-1	...	...	...
33.50	Dencora	188	-1	3.0	2.0	...
84.20	Derwent Hldgs	723	...	8.7	1.5	...
80.80	Development Sec	37½	-3½	...	...	...
16.30	Dwyer	63	-1	...	...	...
24.40	Estates Agency	406	...	...	2.3	48.2
8.88	Estates Gen	41½	-3	...	...	...
168.40	Evans Of Leeds	127	-5	...	2.3	22.5
35.10	Five Oaks	36	-1	...	...	...
6.34	Fletcher King	73 †	-1	1.0	1.7	48.4
267.10	Frogmore	529	-2	...	3.8	25.5
63.90	Grainger	319 †	-2	...	2.1	57.0
741.40	Gr Portland	243	-9	...	4.1	23.3
198.10	Greycoat	22 †	...	...	...	...
6,594.30	HK Land	245	-18	...	2.6	32.3
273.20	Hambro Cntyw	83	-2	0.5	0.8	...
1,086.80	Hammerson	433	+13	10.0	2.9	43.8
60.90	Helical Bar	375	+4	...	1.6	13.5
62.20	Hemingway	38	-2	...	...	...
11.00	Herring Baker	69	-2	3.7	6.8	17.3
2.76	Jermyn	138	...	...	...	...
3,832.80	Land Sec	753	-16	23.1	3.6	23.5
289.40	Lon Merch Sec	119 †	-3	4.0	4.2	18.5
5.46	Lon & Metro	12	-2	...	...	...
2,106.20	MEPC	512	-31	...	4.9	29.5
8.13	McInerney A	17½	+2	...	...	...
44.30	McKay Secs	185 †	+5	3.5	2.4	25.4
6.11	Markheath	5	-1	...	...	...
10.40	Merivale Mre	76	-5	...	...	...
17.10	Moorfield Est	51	-1	...	...	...
58.50	Mountview	1275 †	-75	22.0	2.2	...
100.30	Mucklow (A&J)	195	-1	...	3.9	...
13.10	Olives Prop	68	-2	...	...	...
26.20	ORB	2	...	...	...	...
228.40	PSIT	188	-2	4.3	2.9	36.9
314.40	Peel	394	-4	4.3	1.4	...
9.88	Power Corp	8½	-½	...	...	...
7.97	Property Trust	42	-1	...	...	12.0
46.10	Raglan	49	-2	...	...	...
41.00	Regalian	35	-2½	...	...	...
20.60	Rowlinson Secs	165	...	1.5	1.1	20.6
71.20	St Modwen Prp	61	-3	0.9	1.8	46.5
71.50	Savile Grdn (I)	73½	-3½	...	4.6	36.6
31.80	Savills	88 †	-5	...	3.5	34.8
136.00	Scot Met	105	-3	...	1.8	...
64.70	Shaftesbury	133	-2	...	...	...
1.21	Shield	12½	...	...	...	...
1,115.60	Slough Estates	290	-14	...	3.5	20.3
107.40	Southend Prop	100 †	-3	...	3.0	...
48.10	Stanhope Prps	29	...	...	...	...
112.80	Tops Ests	244 †	...	2.1	1.1	...
164.00	Town Centre	160	-1	...	2.7	28.6
72.70	Trafford Park	107	+1	...	3.3	24.0
1.73	UK Land	40	-1	...	...	...
17.40	Union Square	9	-1	...	...	...
153.60	Warner	316	...	10.4	4.1	28.9
94.80	Warnford	247	...	7.5	3.8	17.9
4.27	Waterglade	4½	-½	...	...	...
158.90	Wates	103	+2	...	...	...
8.79	Wood John Ds	101 †	-4	...	0.9	...

SHOES, LEATHER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1.94	Automagica	34	...	...	...	...
76.70	Headlam	218	...	...	1.7	49.2
23.90	Lambert	400	+15	13.2	4.1	9.5
15.60	Pittards	72	-2	1.5	2.6	20.6
44.30	Strong & Fisher	26	+2½	1.0	4.8	7.2
47.70	Stylo	249	...	...	1.5	...
25.00	UK Safety	65	...	...	5.0	2.1

TEXTILES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
177.10	Allied Text	615	+5	12.9	2.7	∞
8.31	Beckman (A)	68	-2	...	6.6	14.6
2.38	Bolton Gp	26	-1	...	...	...
27.90	Br Mohair	210	-5	8.5	5.1	19.7
1.31	Charnwell	53	+5	...	...	...
146.60	Claremont Ga	361	+6	7.5	2.6	22.5
584.80	Courtauld Text	579	-12	13.9	3.0	15.8
3.77	Cupid	21	-2	...	...	...
224.90	Dawson	144	-10	...	6.6	11.0
5.65	Drummond	32	-3	...	...	...
8.99	Faupel	77 †	-1	4.9	8.0	11.9
3.04	Foster (John)	27	-1	...	...	...
7.97	Gaskell	164	+14	4.2	3.2	...
38.80	Hicking Pntcst	235	-3	...	2.2	16.7
4.83	Jerome (S)	64	-2	...	0.4	...
144.00	Lamont	480	+20	12.0	3.1	[illegible]
95.20	Leeds	501	-3	...	2.1	[illegible]
7.14	Lyles (S)	99	-1	...	4.2	...
41.80	Magellan	164	...	1.4	1.1	...
23.30	Parkland	265 †	...	...	0.8	...
211.50	Readicut	109	-2	...	3.9	20.5
2.25	SEET	56	+1	...	...	...
75.40	Sirdar	141	+1	...	4.7	9.7
53.90	Stirling Gp	62	-1	1.9	3.8	17.2
31.60	Stoddard	45	...	...	4.2	41.8
20.10	Tomkinsons	325 †	-1	...	4.4	27.6
19.10	West Trust	45	-1	...	7.5	...
27.20	Yorklyde	272	-5	...	2.5	17.8

TOBACCOS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
15,271.80	BAT	496	-14½	...	4.8	14.9
3,013.70	Rothmans	454	-3	...	3.4	14.3

TRANSPORT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1,155.60	Assoc Br Ports	615	+1	...	1.8	...
5,304.20	BAA	1038	-27	...	2.0	25.8
104.50	Badgerline	121	-5	...	4.2	1.4
4,526.80	Br Airways	475	-12	...	2.8	23.3
24.10	Clarkson (H)	108	+10	1.7	2.0	...
1,595.40	Eurotunnel Uts	578	-22	...	...	...
20.50	Fisher (James)	86	-2	0.5	0.7	22.8
43.40	IoM Steam	289	-4	...	3.6	15.2
11.70	Jacobs (JI)	33	...	0.5	1.2	...
79.00	Lon O'Seas Frts	108	-3	...	1.2	19.8
467.40	Mersey Docks	524	+11	...	2.1	35.6
109.60	Natl Express	274	-6	...	3.2	28.3
1,822.30	NFC	265 †	-12	...	3.3	20.4
499.60	Ocean Group	324	-21	...	5.5	...
33.30	Ocean Wilson	84	-3	4.0	8.0	15.2
4,179.00	P & O Dfd	700	-17	...	5.4	38.0
103.30	P & O 5 1/2%	155	...	...	4.4	...
437.60	Powell Duffryn	660	-22	...	4.3	20.9
22.50	Seacon	234	+8	5.7	3.1	∞
251.10	Stagecoach	202	+15	...	2.4	24.6
683.30	TNT	121	+3½	...	...	...
394.20	Tibbet & Britn	898	+5	12.6	1.8	34.4
70.80	Tiphook	64	+3½	...	...	...
470.40	TDG	320	-4	...	3.7	10.6
29.70	Uptand	124	-1	...	...	...

WATER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1,583.60	Anglian Water	535 †	-46	...	5.0	10.7
62.40	Mid Kent Hdgs	365	...	...	3.7	13.5
477.30	Northumbrian	705 †	-34	...	4.1	8.3
2,077.60	North West	557 †	-39	...	4.9	9.2
2,121.70	Severn Trent	591 †	-40	...	4.6	9.1
1,041.40	Sthrn Water	621 †	-49	...	4.4	10.0
88.60	Sth Staffs	1583	...	48.5	3.8	11.3
769.30	South West	614 †	-38	...	4.9	9.9
2,185.10	Thames Water	556	-38	...	4.8	[illegible]
993.90	Welsh Water	684 †	-54	...	4.4	[illegible]
886.40	Wessex Water	708 †	-32	...	3.9	[illegible]
1,146.30	Yorkshire W	574 †	-41	...	4.7	4.5

Source: Finstat

♠ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ‡ Ex all; † Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
550	Treas 14¼% 1994	100 †	..	14.50	..
1,100	Exch 13¾% 1994	101	-1/16	13.58	5.07
1,900	Treas 10% 1994	101	-1/16	9.85	5.11
1,240	Exch 12¾% 1994	102 †	-1/16	12.03	5.06
1,000	Treas 9% 1994	102	-1/16	8.74	4.98
2,350	Treas 12% 1995	106	-1/16	11.27	4.96
214	Gas 3% 1990-95	98	..	3.06	4.78
2,900	Exch 10¼% 1995	107	..	9.57	5.07
440	Treas 12¾% 1995	112	-1/16	11.33	5.16
770	Treas 14% 1996	115	-¼	12.06	5.30
1,150	Treas 15¼% 1996	120	-¼	12.68	5.39
800	Exch 13¼% 1996	116	-¼	11.38	5.40
3,400	Conv 10% 1996	111	-¼	9.01	5.50
1,290	Treas 13¼% 1997	120	-¼	11.04	5.73
3,700	Exch 10½% 1997	113 †	-¼	9.29	5.74
5,550	Treas 8¾% 1997	109 †	-¼	8.01	5.91
830	Exch 15% 1997	129	-¼	11.58	5.96
3,540	Exch 9¾% 1998	112	-¼	8.63	5.97
6,250	Treas 7¼% 1998	104	-¼	6.92	5.92
1,600	Treas 7¼% B 1998	104	-¼	6.93	5.92
1,200	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	101	-¼	6.64	5.28
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	129	-¼	10.84	6.13
935	Treas 15½% 1998	137	-¼	11.27	6.04
3,909	Exch 12% 1998	123	-¼	9.71	5.18
1,900	Treas 9½% 1999	114	-¼	9.33	6.11

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
3,900	Treas 6% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.00	5.96
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	125	[illegible]	9.75	6.29
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	118	-¼	8.83	6.22
1,794	Conv 10¼% 1999	116	[illegible]	8.63	6.30
5,358	Conv 9% 2000	112 †	[illegible]	7.93	6.26
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	133	-1	9.74	6.52
3,250	Treas 7% 2001	101	[illegible]	6.77	6.42
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	119 †	-1	8.40	6.57
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	110 †	[illegible]	8.15	6.69
7,600	Treas 9% 2003	109	[illegible]	7.29	6.57
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	122 †	-1	8.15	6.72
1,625	Treas 11½% 2001-04	126 †	[illegible]	9.11	6.77
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	82	-½	4.26	5.81
3,250	Treas 6¾% 2004	101	-½	6.56	6.56
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	120	-½	7.99	6.77
4,642	Conv 9½% 2005	122	-1	7.96	6.79
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	139	-1	9.00	6.94
2,000	Treas 8% 2002-06	107	-½	7.42	6.79
3,900	Treas 7¾% 2006	101 †	-1	7.19	6.78
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	131	-1	9.92	6.91
5,497	Treas 8½% 2007	114	-1	7.45	6.83
1,250	Treas 13½% 2004-08	147	-1	9.18	6.93
5,321	Treas 9% 2008	117	-1	7.52	6.84

LONGS (over 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
3,100	Treas 8% 2009	110	-1	7.23	6.86
4,273	Conv 9% 2011	121	-1	7.40	6.84
5,150	Treas 9% 2012	122	-1	7.36	6.84
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	88 †	-1	6.25	6.61
900	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	109	-1	7.06	6.80
4,050	Treas 8% 2013	112	-1	7.11	6.84
1,000	Exch 12% 2013-17	153	-2	7.84	7.01
6,450	Treas 8¾% 2017	122 †	-2	7.14	6.81

UNDATED

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
1,909	War Ln 3½%	50	-1	6.89	
475	Treas 2½%	34	-1	7.17	

INDEX-LINKED

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
500	Treas IL 2% 1994	137	+½	...	...
1,200	Treas IL 2% 1996	202 †	+½	1.28	2.21
800	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	111	-½	1.50	2.23
1,500	Treas IL 2½% 2001	174	-½	2.20	2.65
1,050	Treas IL 2½% 2003	171	-½	2.51	2.80
850	Treas IL 4⅛% 2004	116	-½	2.55	2.83
1,550	Treas IL 2% 2006	181	-1	2.64	2.86
1,550	Treas IL 2½% 2009	164	-1	2.84	3.03
1,800	Treas IL 2½% 2011	171 †	-1	2.89	3.06
2,300	Treas IL 2½% 2013	141 †	-1	2.93	3.08
2,400	Treas IL 2½% 2016	152	-1	2.98	3.13
2,400	Treas IL 2½% 2020	147	-1	3.03	3.16
1,900	Treas IL 2½% 2024	124	-1	3.01	3.13

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من الاهل

REPORTING THIS WEEK

Glaxo set to give interim profits a healthy look

ANALYSTS are hoping that Sir Paul Girolami, chairman of **Glaxo Holdings**, will provide the pharmaceuticals group with a boost when interim figures are revealed on Thursday.

Andrew Porter, analyst at UBS, has pencilled in a 14 per cent advance in first-half pre-tax profits to £930 million, compared with £819 million. Market forecasts range from £900 million to £980 million.

Operating profits are expected to increase by 17 per cent, boosted by a healthy currency gain, though investment income is likely to diminish.

Mr Porter is looking for a 12 per cent rise in earnings to 21.7p a share, while a 23 per cent increase is predicted in the dividend to 8.6p (7p).

Some analysts forecast an interim dividend as high as 10p in an anticipated bid by Glaxo to reduce the disparity between the full and half-year payouts.

Analysts will focus on news relating to sales prospects for Zantac, the group's important ulcer drug. Interim sales of Zantac are expected to climb to £1.15-£1.25 billion (£1.03 billion), representing about 45 per cent of group turnover, though underlying growth will have slowed. The future is uncertain, with AB Astra's Losec drug gaining ground and US price pressure set to mount when SmithKline Beecham's Tagamet comes off-patent in May. Among Glaxo's other products, sales of the Zofran anti-nausea drug are likely to reach £200-230 million (£163 million).

TODAY

Interims: Castle Cairn Investment Trust, English & Caledonian Inv, Foster's Brewing Group, Mid Wynd Intnl Investment Trust, Rosspur, Second Alliance Trust, Stanelco, Throgmorton 1000, Westminster Health Care. **Finals:** Baring Tribune Investment Trust, Flying Flowers, Olim Convertible Trust, Second Market Inv Co.
Economic statistics: Producer price index numbers (January).

TOMORROW

British Airways is expected to produce evidence of another surge for the third quarter, confirming BA as the most profitable of the few international airlines that remain in the black. BA is expected to report sharply higher profits of about £300 million for the first nine months of its financial year, up from £247 million. NatWest Securities forecasts third-quarter pre-tax profits of £58 million (£21 million) thanks to a combination of 11.6 per cent third-quarter traffic growth and, more important, 11 per cent premium traffic growth in the third quarter.

Hanson, Lord Hanson's bricks, coal mining and tobacco conglomerate, will have a relatively sorry tale to tell as higher interest charges and the costs of the strike at the company's Peabody coal mine in America take their toll.

The recession on both sides of the Atlantic is expected to push Hanson's first-quarter pre-tax profits down to £100 million (£216 million), according to NatWest Securities. Market forecasts range from £96 million to £130 million. An unchanged interim dividend of 2.85p is predicted.

Interims: Armitage Brothers, Hanson (Q1), Howard Holdings. **Finals:** British Airways (Q3), Burlington Group, Mersey Docks and Harbour Co, St Modwen Properties, TR Pacific Inv Trust, Union Discount Co.
Economic statistics: CBI survey of distributive trades (January), index of production (December), acquisitions and mergers within the UK (Q4), construction — new orders (December).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Benson Group.
Finals: County Smaller Cos, Leslie Wise Group, Trencherwood, Trust of Property Shares, Vardon, Yeoman Inv Trust. **Economic statistics:** Retail prices index (January), public sector borrowing requirement (January), retail sales (January), labour market statistics: unemployment and unfilled vacancies (January — provisional), average earnings indices (December — provisional); employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs; industrial disputes, farm rents in Wales: results of 1993 annual rent enquiry.

THURSDAY

Alfred McAlpine, the housebuilder, is forecast to reveal a full-year profits advance to about £5 million (£3.6 million), confirming a gradual strengthening of the market last year.

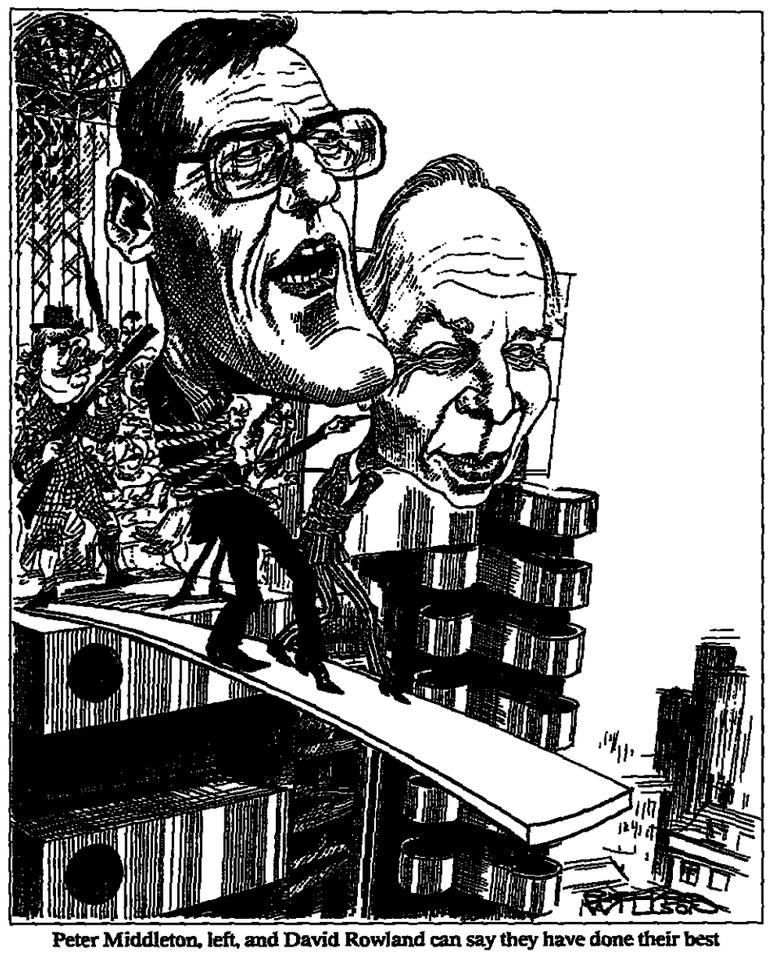
Sparkling equity market conditions in the closing half of last year will allow a significant profits recovery at **Kleinwort Benson**, the merchant bank, though earnings progress in the current year could be more sedate. Analysts' final pre-tax profit forecasts range from £80 million to £92 million, with most centered around £90 million, compared with £46.3 million.

Interims: Alumasc Group, Glasgow Income Trust (D), Glaxo Holdings, Intl Communication & Data, Pantheon Intnl, River & Mercantile Geared (3iD). **Finals:** Anglo & Overseas Trust, Bank Leumi (UK), Kleinwort Benson Group, River & Mercantile Trust, Vektra Corporation, Wickes.
Economic statistics: Machine tools (December), financial statistics (February), provisional figures for vehicle production (January).

FRIDAY

Finals: Inoco.
Economic statistics: Building societies' monthly figures (January), provisional estimates of M4 and counterparts (January), major British banking groups' monthly statement (end-January).

PHILIP PANGALOS



Peter Middleton, left, and David Rowland can say they have done their best

Institutions return to cash holdings

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

THE latest monthly survey of fund managers conducted by Gallup for Smith New Court shows that institutions intend to increase their holdings of cash for the first time since the survey began in mid-1990.

The February survey, which involved 91 institutions handling funds totalling £781 billion, also showed that interest in UK property remains extremely strong. The balance of fund managers planning to raise UK property holdings rose to 33 per cent, matching last October's record figure.

As far as allocation policy is concerned, the survey found that fund managers' interest has shifted further away from continental Europe and other equities and towards Japanese shares. Some 50 per cent of fund managers intend to increase their holdings of Japanese equities, against 39 per cent in January and a mere 8 per cent in December.

There has been little change towards the UK and US since last month's survey, with 12 per cent of respondents intending to raise holdings of US shares, while 4 per cent of managers plan to raise holdings of UK shares. A majority of institutions prefer FT-SE Mid 250 to FT-SE 100 shares at present. Institutions are most bullish about the outlook for UK and Japanese shares in the next 12 months, and least bullish about that for the US and the Continent.

Institutions continue to be confident about the outlook for the UK economy. Base rates are expected to be down to 5 per cent within three months, but inflation is expected to rise slowly and is forecast to reach 3.2 per cent during 1994 and 3.9 per cent in 1995.

Mercedes rejected Rover

MERCEDES-BENZ, the German luxury car maker, said it had had no interest in buying Rover Group, which was bought by BMW, its rival, two weeks ago.

"It would not have suited us. We looked carefully at the idea but concluded that we would do better by growing internally and developing new models and market segments," Helmut Werner, the management board chairman, said.

"BMW is a very different company to Mercedes. They made the right decision but for us it would have been wrong. The growth potential of Mercedes has not been fully utilised. We would rather work on this," Herr Werner said.

On January 31, British Aerospace agreed to sell its 100 per cent ownership of Rover Group Holding to BMW for £800 million. The holding company owns 80 per cent of the Rover Group and Honda the other 20 per cent.

Lloyd's offer set to flop

BY SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S of London is expected to announce this week that its £900 million settlement offer has flopped, leaving names clear to seek compensation through the courts.

More than 22,000 names have been offered a total of £900 million in compensation for losses of £5.5 billion incurred up to the 1990 year of account. In return, if the offer were successful, names had to give up their rights to seek legal redress for their losses.

While the offer formally does not close until 3pm today, few believe that Lloyd's will win enough acceptances for the offer to go unconditional. David Rowland, Lloyd's chairman, and Peter Middleton, chief executive, have said that they need acceptances for more than 70 per cent of the offer, in terms of value.

Acceptances are still coming in, but at the end of last week they were rumoured to be only about 35 per cent. Add 10 per cent for the late rush, and the total is still well below that needed. The failure of the offer will have little impact on the insurance market and will enable Messrs Rowland and Middleton to say "we have done our best" and then leave names to do their best in court.

However, the level of acceptance could be high enough for Lloyd's to decide to leave the offer open in the hope that other names will sign up.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Battle over Disney theme park for US

FIVE American environmental groups claim Walt Disney's plans for a theme park and new town in Virginia would create "sprawl" and cost the region millions of dollars in government grants. Michael Replogle, a transport specialist with the Environmental Defence Fund, said the park would bring in so much traffic that air-quality standards on which government road-building grants are based would be lost.

Disney proposes to build a theme park, hotel, golf course, offices, shops and 2,500 homes on 3,000 acres at the hamlet of Haymarket, 35 miles from Washington DC. Environmental organisations want the project moved nearer Washington. "Taxpayers should not be asked to spend hundreds of millions of dollars to subsidise a new wave of sprawl which will degrade air quality and add to growing regional transportation gridlock," Mr Replogle said. A Disney spokeswoman said the environmentalists' objections were unsubstantiated. "They're saying, 'Move the site because you're going to mess up our air'. That has not been determined."

Domnick Hunter float

DOMNICK Hunter, the filter manufacturer based in the North-East, is seeking a stock market flotation this spring that would capitalise the group at about £60 million. Hunter, which was the subject of a management buyout from Walter Alexander in 1990 and employs about 550 people, makes high-efficiency filter systems used to purify and dry air, gas and liquids for the production of mineral waters, wines and spirits, drugs and cosmetics. The 1993 results are expected to show turnover of about £30 million on operating profit exceeding £4.7 million. NatWest Wood Mackenzie will be broker to the issue.

Studio fight at deadline

THE five-month $10 billion takeover battle for Paramount Communications could start again from the beginning today if neither contender for the Hollywood studio gains control by midnight. Rules on bidding expire tonight if there is no clear winner, effectively freeing QVC Network and Viacom, the two cable-television companies making rival bids for Paramount, to launch new offers. In a statement issued at the weekend, Paramount said that the Securities and Exchange Commission had asked it to clarify the rules to avoid market confusion. Paramount has recommended Viacom's bid. QVC has hinted that it might raise its offer later.

Lloyds' offshoot ahead

THE National Bank of New Zealand, a unit of Lloyds Bank, announced an after-tax profit of NZ$151 million (£58 million) for 1993, up 48 per cent from NZ$102 million. The profit reflected a strong performance across all areas of the bank's operations despite narrower than usual lending margins and included a full-year's contribution from the Rural Bank and profit from the bank's Australian subsidiary Lloyds Bank NZA, Sir Spencer Russell, chairman, said. Pre-tax profit rose to NZ$215 million against NZ$153 million. Total group assets were NZ$14.212 billion (NZ$10.948 billion).

City diary, page 42

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.4667 (-0.0257)
German mark
2.5688 (-0.0216)
Exchange index
81.0 (-0.7)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2594.8 (-74.0)
FT-SE 100
3378.9 (-96.5)
New York Dow Jones
3894.78 (+23.36)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
Closed

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.18	1.98
Austria Sch	18.88	17.48
Belgium Fr	55.99	51.59
Canada $	2.072	1.912
Cyprus Cyp£	0.798	0.748
Denmark Kr	10.81	9.81
Finland Mkk	8.99	8.19
France Fr	9.15	8.45
Germany Dm	2.71	2.50
Greece Dr	390.50	365.50
Hong Kong $	12.00	11.00
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2570.00	2415.00
Japan Yen	173.50	156.50
Malta	0.617	0.582
Netherlds Gld	3.018	2.788
Norway Kr	11.67	10.87
Portugal Esc	268.00	250.50
S Africa Rd	5.75	4.85
Spain Pts	215.50	201.50
Sweden Kr	12.40	11.60
Switzerlnd Fr	2.30	2.12
Turkey Lira	27363.0	25863.0
USA $	1.562	1.432

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading Friday.

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Will George Adams make any Britons very, very rich?

Jon Ashworth reports from Melbourne on a contender to run the UK National Lottery with 104 years' experience in the numbers game



Tattersall's most successful retail outlet sells nothing but lottery tickets and makes a profit of $400,000 a year

Money, in Melbourne, comes in the form of a whiskery former gold prospector called George Adams. His bearded face adorns newsagents and corner shops in a dozen suburbs. For all who see it, the sight triggers the same impulse: George Adams could make me very, very rich.

A year from now, the very same face could be scowling down from shops and supermarkets across the length and breadth of Britain. It may even bear the trace of a smile, or, indeed, be roaring with laughter. For its presence will mean the coup of a lifetime for Tattersall's, the Melbourne lottery operator that is audaciously bidding to run the giant UK National Lottery.

In the 90 years since George Adams's death, the lottery business he founded has grown by leaps and bounds. About five million people across Australia have a go at Tattersall's Saturday night draw, lured by prizes of A$13 million (£6.4 million) or more, and raising vast sums for state coffers. Lottery ticket sales in Victoria hit $1 billion last year, raising $281 million in government revenue. Millions are donated to charity.

Multiply this by six and one can begin to picture the scale of the UK National Lottery. Tattersall's new national game, OZ Lotto, is being sold through 4,000 retail outlets. The UK is expected to have 15,000 to 30,000 outlets, ticket sales could rise to £3 billion to £4 billion a year, and the bonanza for the shopkeepers who sell the tickets is likely to be astonishing.

Tattersall's shops sell about $1 million in tickets a year each, and make an average profit of $1,658 every week. This works out at $82,350 for each shopkeeper a year — on top of regular activities such as selling chocolates and newspapers. Tattersall's most successful retail outlet, in a shopping centre in suburban Melbourne, sells nothing but lottery tickets and makes a profit — astonishing by any measure — of $400,000 a year.

While the precise cut for the UK retailer has yet to be worked out, it is clear that there are good profits to be made. For Tattersall's, which has teamed up with N M Rothschild to make its bid, the issue goes far beyond mere cash. Whoever wins the National Lottery licence — the final list of bidders is to be published today — will be the world's number one. The point has not been lost on the eight consortia jockeying for position as the race enters the last leg.

Each consortium has its special message: Richard Branson promising to give more to good causes, Camelot Group offering a speedy start-up and reliable service. Tattersall's message is a simple one: that it generates more profits per head than any other lottery operator in the world.

The nerve centre from which such statistics flow is a modern building on Dandenong Road, south of Melbourne city centre. Inside, George Adams's face glowers from every corner — the black marble walls, the hallways, even the computer screens in the data centre, where ticket sales are monitored. Sales can easily hit $1.4 million in an average morning.

Two such data centres are likely to be built in the UK, and their capability is remarkable. Take Groote Eylandt, off Australia's northern coast, one of Tattersall's most remote outlets. Someone fills in a lottery card picking six numbers, and hands the card to an attendant to insert into a lottery terminal. The ticket is read, a signal is sent by microwave to Darwin and flashed by land lines to Melbourne, 3,000 miles away, the computer registers the numbers, a signal is flashed back and the ticket is printed. The entire process takes less than a second.

Here, the ironies begin. For the equipment that makes all this possible — lottery terminals and computers alike — is supplied by GTech, the American lottery company that is competing against Tattersall's in the UK as part of the Camelot bid. Their relationship is ambivalent, to say the least. Peter Gillooly, Tattersall's general manager, insists that relations with GTech are "very good", saying Tattersall's aim is to "rise above" any mudslinging. But in the next breath — why, a clump of mud. "Anyone who believes selling confectionery is the same as running lotteries has another think coming," says Mr Gillooly, in a clear jibe at GTech's partner, Cadbury Schweppes. GTech, he says, is a systems supplier with limited experience of running lotteries, unlike Tattersall's, which has been doing it for 104 years. "They're trying to make themselves analogous to what we do," he says. In a final dig, GTech is accused of capitalising on Tattersall innovations — like Quick Pick, in which the computer chooses numbers for players at random.

On the other hand, GTech is known to be angered by suggestions that it is touting its services in the market. It has always maintained it is 100 per cent committed to the Camelot bid.



No one can doubt Tattersall's track record in running lotteries, a task it has performed for decades without a breath of scandal. Victoria's Minister for Gaming, Haddon Storey QC, speaks of Tattersall's in glowing terms. "Over the years, there has not even been the faintest hint of anything untoward," he says. "Very few organisations in the world have such an impeccable record."

The company is well aware that the public must have total confidence in the operator if they are to buy tickets. Tattersall's has turned down contracts in Asia and the former Soviet Union for fear of the possible damage to its reputation. One South East Asian government wanted the top tickets to be placed in a suitcase marked "Big prizes". Tattersall's politely declined to get involved.

If there is a chink in the armour, it lies in Tattersall's curious corporate structure. George Adams formed a trust to distribute the proceeds from lottery sales to a host of anonymous beneficiaries. The secretive nature of the structure has been a source of criticism over the years. As Adrian Nelson, marketing manager, puts it: "The original beneficiaries included some politicians. The idea is that George looked after his mates."

The notion of Tattersall's as a "secret society" begins to disintegrate on closer examination. The names of the beneficiaries — now numbering thousands — will be fully disclosed to government regulators on request. Tattersall's is subjected to no fewer than three external audits. As Mr Gillooly says: "It's overboard, but we welcome it. At the end of the day, everybody knows that there's nothing untoward with what we do."

Rival bidders for the UK licence can be as rude about each other as they like. No matter what is said and written, the decision to award the National Lottery licence will ultimately be decided in plain, analytical terms: who is best for the job. Peter Davis, Director General of the National Lottery, is well aware of the need to avoid scandal, and is going to extraordinary lengths to investigate anything suspicious. Agencies, including Interpol and British intelligence, have been asked to assist. Investigators will be sent to America, Australia or anywhere else it is deemed necessary. The National Lottery must be whiter than white.

Mr Davis is taking equally great pains to protect his integrity. Every single telephone call he takes is logged. He declines an invitation to visit Tattersall's in Australia. "I have not accepted so much as a cup of tea from the applicants," he says.

The Government's overriding requirement is for a "clean" lottery that will raise the maximum for good causes. Mr Davis has a heavyweight team of advisers to assist him in his task: Hill Samuel, chosen for its work in the television franchise round, and National Economic Research Associates, a consultancy specialising in privatisations.

Other advisers include PA Consulting, Mercer Consulting, the Treasury Solicitors department, and Lawrence Graham, a firm of solicitors.

The nationality of the bidders is not an issue. Mr Davis says: "Anyone can bid, Belgian or Bolivian. There is no prejudice against overseas expertise involved; it is all part of an overriding need to be fit and proper." The vetting process is likely to take until June.

British shopkeepers and punters, meanwhile, have much to look forward to. Australians buy their lottery tickets with great enthusiasm, in newsagents, tobacconists, chemists, and even hairdressers. Losing tickets are sometimes put in a barrel for a second draw, with a television or a fan as a consolation prize. In Britain, the lottery wheel is spinning. And there are no prizes for second place.

Award scheme's growth mirrors revived interest in smaller companies

IN THE depths of recession, when the stock market stagnated and investors deserted all but the safest companies, pressure grew on the Stock Exchange to do something — anything — to revive interest in smaller quoted firms.

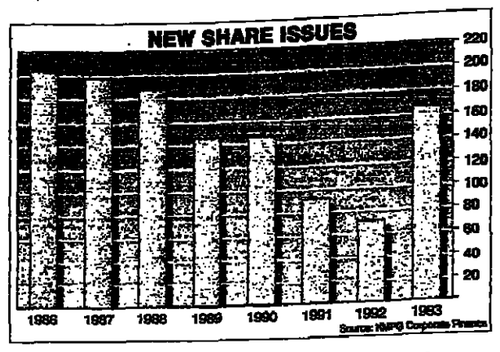
Amid cries that the Stock Exchange simply didn't care about smaller companies, new issues dried up, fund-raising became impossible, and liquidity in the shares evaporated. The Exchange stood its ground. The problem was, one official said, "nothing that a good bull market wouldn't put right".

He was right. A strong stock market has drawn a flood of new issues — 165 last year alone, the most since 1988 — and rights issues, while the value of shares in smaller companies has made good the gap that had opened between them and big companies. The complaint that the City can't be bothered with smaller companies is rarely heard. The City Group for Smaller Companies, the lobby group known as CISCO, has not dropped the cause, but these days is as concerned about corporate governance and how small companies can implement the Cadbury recommendations.

The atmosphere is, therefore, likely to be more convivial at this year's Coopers & Lybrand PLC Awards, when businessmen and City professionals meet at one of the City's most prestigious events. When money is being made, past grievances are more easily forgotten.

The awards, in their eighth year and run in association with *The Times*, are further evidence that interest in smaller companies has never been stronger. More than 1,100 people will attend the awards ceremony at London's Grosvenor House Hotel on March 10, when Michael Grade, head of Channel 4, will speak. Again, demand for tickets has exceeded supply.

It is a far cry from the inaugural event when just 200 gathered in the City for the USM Awards, a kind of club for entrepreneurs who prospered taking their companies public as the 1980s bull market gathered pace. When the boom came a cropper and the USM lost its gloss, the event became the PLC Awards, and Coopers & Lybrand succeeded the defunct *USM Magazine* as main sponsor.



The event is now open to companies with market capitalisation up to £320 million, tracking Hoare Govett's smaller company index, which embraces almost 80 per cent of quoted companies. That exclusive club for entrepreneurs now excludes only the largest companies. Organisers not only pre-empted the Unlisted Securities Market's demise, but probably hastened it.

COOPERS & LYBRAND PLC AWARDS

Graham Cole, a corporate finance partner in Coopers and the partner responsible for the awards, was a CISCO founder two-and-a-half years ago. "At the time, the Stock Exchange was not attractive to smaller companies, nor was the Stock Exchange attracted to smaller companies," he says. "What we feared was a return to the bad old days of the over-the-counter market."


Cole: quality-watcher

The desire to improve the perceived quality of smaller companies explains CISCO's concern over the Cadbury Report. The principles of corporate governance apply to all companies, regardless of size, Mr Cole says.

He is gratified by the quality of the smaller companies in the latest generation of new issues, particularly when compared with issues that scraped through at the height of the bull market in the late 1980s, and says that "the PLC Awards will have a fertile population to choose from in the future".

Issue sponsors are top-class, says Mr Cole, who expects demand for new issues to remain strong in 1994.

Candidates for Company of the Year, sponsored by College Hill Associates, are CIA Group, EIS Group and Rotork. Candidates for New Company of the Year, sponsored by Albert E Sharp, are Carpetright, Rotboro Group, and Telspec. Entrepreneur of the Year, sponsored by Credit Lyonnais, will be chosen from James Frost, of Frost Group; Max Pearce, of Haynes Publishing; Digby Morrow, of Sidlaw; and Geoffrey Hollyhead, of Trinity Holdings.

The Times will carry voting coupons this week. Other awards are: Best Annual Report, sponsored by Burrups/St Ives; Best Performing Share, sponsored by Winterflood Securities; and Smaller Company Fund Manager, sponsored by Peel Hunt.

MARTIN BARROW

Growth shortfall likely to squeeze real yields

Gilts investors were not convinced last week that an interest rate cut was justified. The scepticism contrasts with their confidence, only two months ago, that the tight Budget would pave the way to lower borrowing costs. Then, it seemed that rate cuts would be the only means of offsetting the restrictive impact of the Chancellor's tax measures on economic demand. It is an indication of how far inflation concerns have risen in recent weeks that the Bank of England's MLR announcement was received with such apprehension.

This was after the Chancellor had cited improved inflation prospects as one of the factors justifying lower interest rates. The Bank of England was able to report in its latest study of inflation that there had been a fall in the underlying rate monitored by the Government since its previous study last autumn. Mr Clarke may well have expected a more enthusiastic market response to his rates decision than he received.

While private forecasters have indeed trimmed their projections of inflation, the financial markets are not following them. A visceral sense of unease at the risks of rising wage and raw material costs has been creeping in. In part, this reflects alarm at the US Federal Reserve's move to tighten credit. If the Fed worries about inflation, the market reasons, should not the rest of us?

To the argument that the Fed's concerns relate to conditions in the US economy, which is further advanced in the economic cycle than the UK and probably closer to production bottlenecks, the answer is that it is only a matter of time before the UK catches up. There is no evidence that the psychology of pay bargaining has changed in the UK, only that a weak economy holds wages in check. Gilts are beginning to anticipate the next inflation upswing.

These fears were magnified by the timing of the rate cut, at a moment that was politically difficult for the Government. There is no reason to suspect Mr George, who claims responsibility for judging exactly when to change rates, of bowing before political imperatives. Indeed, the coincidence of the rate cut with a political embarrassment has tended to undermine the Bank's anti-inflation credibility. It makes more sense to take the Bank's explanations at face value. February 8 was the date chosen for a rate cut because that was the day the Bank's inflation report was to be published. If the timing was unfortunate, rather than sinister, there will be room for gilts to recover their poise in the weeks ahead.

GILT-EDGED

Gilt yield spreads over US treasuries and German bunds have widened in the past three weeks. While the move relative to Germany may be explicable in terms of the UK's strengthening economic demand, no such argument applies in relation to the US. The UK economic recovery, moreover, is looking rather fragile. Consumer optimism around Christmas already appears to have petered out. Surveys indicate that consumers are now focusing on the April tax increases. The chances are that they will be reluctant to run down their savings to support recent spending levels. Companies' investment intentions remain subdued and the benefits of last year's devaluation are fading. It would not be surprising if the gilts market did not begin, before too long, to look for an undershoot of the official estimate of 2.5 per cent GDP growth this year.

Shortfalls in economic growth will probably encourage further declines in UK real yields. These will spur a rally in fixed coupon gilts and will especially benefit the index-linked sector. Sterling is underpinned by the current cheapness of UK industrial assets, as indicated by BMW's eagerness to buy Rover. Foreigners are likely to see the exchange rate risk in buying gilts as small. The gilts shake-out has left the market all the more firmly based.

STEPHEN LEWIS
Director of Research, The London Bond Broking Company

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

The Old Lady in a new light

EDDIE George, Governor of the Bank of England, was in fine form at the Mansion House dinner hosted by the Lord Mayor, Paul Newall, to mark The Old Lady's tercentenary. To the hoot of all present, the Governor conceded that the Corporation of London was "our best customer", adding "but in view of recent bad publicity about dining with your bank manager, I have decided to waive the usual fee". The Old Lady intends to celebrate her 300th anniversary in style, George said, and since he was dining in the Lord Mayor's grandly refurbished residence, Britain's most expensive council house, might he raise the little matter of lights? Only twice has the Bank been floodlit — to mark the 60th anniversary of Queen Victoria's accession, and, in 1953, to mark the Coronation. The Old Lady would dearly love to show off her face well before her birthday, July 27, but City planning permission and listed building consent to turn the lights on will be considered only on February 18. To show just how super the Old Lady looks illuminated, someone (doubtless, not law-abiding George), had arranged a "test", and the Bank was ablaze as dinner ended. This raises the question: If the Old Lady anticipates the granting of permission for something as serious as floodlighting, will she act with such speed when it comes to the matter of interest rates? And is the Chancellor aware?



"... And the lucky winner is ..."

Brought to book?

WHEN Katherine Wallace left the PRO department of Consolidated Gold Fields in 1988, City friends quaked. Wallace was quitting the City for Cornwall, to run a bookshop, and let it be known that she would be writing a "City novel". Virtually every time she said farewell to a ConsGold colleague, her nervous well-wisher would ask "I won't be in your book, will I?". Six years on, Wallace has scrapped the idea. "I looked over the draft and decided it was beginning to read like a City circular", she says. However, Wallace still promises a "corporate novel, centred on a man with a City lifestyle". Keep quaking.

Mint condition

BRIAN Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds Bank, waxed lyrical about New Zealand last week. It has, he said, a model economy. Its central bank governor has incentives to keep inflation below 2 per cent built into his pay. It is able to produce a lamb for £14, compared with the £40 cost in Europe. This, Pitman said, was a competitive market. "If they can persuade more people to eat lamb, they have the growth", he said. Simple, but effective.

Quietly confident

INSTITUTIONS had better be sharp of hearing this afternoon to catch the City message from stock market-bound Radstone Technology ahead of its share placing. The computer group, a 1988 management buyout from Plessey, may well have a story to tell, but on Friday, Rhys Williams, the chairman, and Charles Patterson, the chief executive, had lost their voices to flu, while Jeff Perrin, finance director, was still talking in whispers. A "voice-over" was being sought at the weekend. If that is not found by noon, stand by for semaphore.

Tie quip

André Bourbeau, Quebec's new finance minister, was sporting a rather smart tie bearing Latin while at the Holland Park residence of the province's delegate-general. The neckwear, Bourbeau said, was presented by Quebec's prime minister, Daniel Johnson. Bourbeau intends wearing the said tie when he presents his first budget. And the Latin's translation, bearing in mind that Canada is rich in timber? — *Money does not grow on trees.*

Overcooked stakes

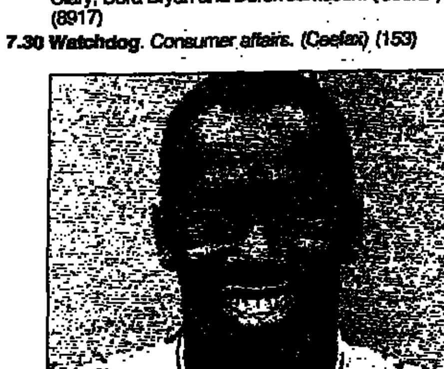
LLOYD'S of London professionals, never ones to miss a good punt, have been flocking to Beauchamps Tap, a City watering hole, to enter a sweepstake on the outcome of the insurance market's £900 million settlement offer. At £5 a go, punters can choose what percentage take-up, in terms of value, they expect. Bets were placed on half percentage points from 40 per cent to 85 per cent. Bets are reported to be concentrated from the "low 50s to the high 60s". The winner, to be announced tomorrow, scoops £120, while 20 per cent of takings will aid motor neurone research. In true Lloyd's style, it is likely that punters have got the numbers horribly wrong, and the final figure will languish in the 40s.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Which
PR consultancy is helping Cadbury keep romance alive?
0
CHARLES BARKER
Exceeding expectations
Steve Gebbett - 071 830 8437

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (95917)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (54336733)
9.05 Kilroy. A studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (7907085) **9.45 Newshound** with Ross King (s) (5641269)
10.00 News *(Ceefax), regional news and weather* (9669240) **10.05 Playdays** (s) (3139375)
10.30 Good Morning ... with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (38825443)
12.15 Pebble Mill (s) (7717952) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (55913240)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (80220) **1.30 Neighbours** (Ceefax) (s) (49915288) **1.50 The Great British Quiz** with Janice Long (s) (49919004)
2.15 Knots Landing (s) (5487207) ***3.05 Family Affairs*** (s) (6988511) **3.35 The Complete BBC Diet and Fitness Show.** Lorraine Kelly looks at healthy eating during pregnancy (9191849)
3.45 Bump 3.50 Model Millie (s) (9163066) **4.05 Batfink** (2831202) **4.10 Jackanory:** *Tales from the Norse's Mouth* (s) (7286462) **4.25 Superted** (r) (2923240) **4.30 Albert the 5th Musketeer.** Swashbuckling fun (424)
5.00 Newsround (8178337) **5.10 Blue Peter** (Ceefax) (s) (8181801)
5.25 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4843462)
6.00 News with Martyn Lewis and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) Weather (917)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (289)
7.00 That's Showbusiness. Entertainment quiz introduced by Mike Smith. The guests include Julian Clary, Dora Bryan and Derek Jameson. (Ceefax) (s) (8917)
7.30 Watchdog. *Consumer affairs. (Ceefax) (153)*

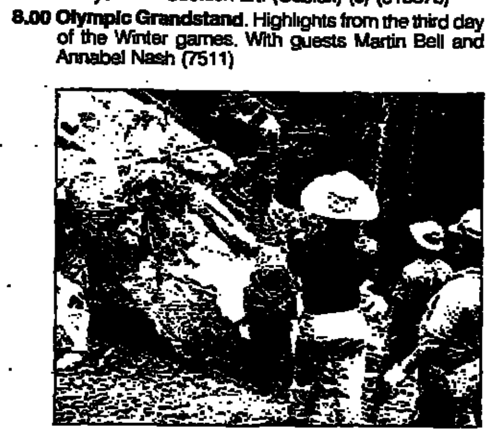


Ian Wright faces the questions (8.00pm)

8.00 A Question of Sport. Ian Botham and Bill Beaumont are joined by Ian Wright, Kendra Slawinski, Joakim Haeggman and Nick Gillingham. Presented by David Coleman. (Ceefax) (s) (4337)
8.30 The Brittas Empire. Comedy series starring Chris Barrie as the bumbling manager of a council-owned leisure centre. (Ceefax) (s) (6172)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Peter Sissons. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (9240)
9.30 Panorama: Battling for Air. Roger Harrabin investigates the claim that air pollution is responsible for the growing number of asthma sufferers. It is now believed that as many as one in seven children are affected (104462)
10.10 Middlemarch (r). (Ceefax) (s) (450153). **Wales:** Video Diaries 10.15 Middlemarch 11.10 Careering Ahead 11.40-12.10 Film 94 with Barry Norman
11.10 Film 94 with Barry Norman. Among the films reviewed are Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List*, *A Bronx Tale* starring and directed by Robert De Niro and *Backbeat* (s) (257998)
11.40 Careering Ahead (s) (417578) **12.10am Weather** (4306689)
3.00-3.50 BBC Select: RCN Nursing Update (43134) **3.30 BBC Select: Pathways to Care** (16801370)

BBC2

6.20 Open University
8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (2267269)
8.15 Westminster Daily (2273820)
8.30 Look, Stranger. A derelict station surrounded by nature (r) (5871608) **8.50 A Week to Remember** (b/w) (1505004)
9.05 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children **1.20** Bump (58138004) **1.25-1.40** Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams (s) (23194462)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather, followed by **Numbers Plus: Infant Maths** (s) (11350066)
2.15 Olympic Grandstand Today's men's events from Kvitfjell include the combined downhill; the third and fourth rounds of the luge; the 500m speed-skating and 30km *cross-country* (628066) ***3.50 News*** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7692608)
4.00 Today's the Day with Martyn Lewis (s) (882)
4.30 People of the Valley. Welsh-language *drama* series. With English subtitles (s) (406) **Wales:** Macgregor's Scotland **5.00 Catchword** with Paul Cola (s) (6795) **5.30 The Great British Garden Show** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (646)
6.00 Def II: The Fresh Prince of Bel Air. Comedy show (s) (763085) **6.25 The Ren and Stimpy Show.** Cult *animation (853172)* ***6.50 Rough Guide to Careers*** Chef Alistair Little passes judgment on a young hopeful (s) (732240)
7.20 The Bigger Picture. Billy *Connolly's final look at* 500 years of Scottish art. (Ceefax) (s) (318375)
8.00 Olympic Grandstand. Highlights from the third day of the Winter games. With guests Martin Bell and Annabel Nash (7511)

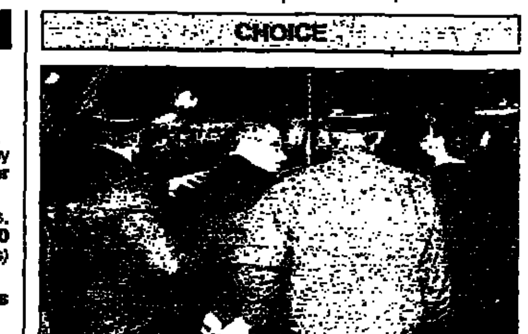


Investigating a fatal air crash (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Horizon: Air Crash – the Deadly Puzzle.** (Ceefax)
9.50 Funky Black Shorts: Hard Shoulder. In the last of six dramas, a woman motorist breaks down at night. Should she accept the help of a friendly stranger? *(Ceefax)* (s) (908462)
10.00 CHOICE **Richardson on Picasso** (Ceefax) (s) (526917)
10.15 Picasso and the Dealers. Film revealing the whereabouts of the twenty-three bronze casts of *Head of a Woman* (s) (131998)
10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (319627)
11.15 Olympic Grandstand. The latest news of today's events (810066) **11.55 Weather** (642462)
12.00 Childbirth and Contraception: Choices and Chances (8530283). Ends at **1.20am**
2.00 Night School: Search Out Science (99009). Ends at **4.00**

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CHOICE



A shoplifter is caught in the act (C4, 9.00pm).

Cutting Edge: Shops and Robbers
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Marks & Spencer loses millions of pounds a year through shoplifting. To catch the thieves the company has spent millions of pounds on closed circuit television. The programme goes to the Midlands to *watch the M & S security system in action. There are* some solid successes, though mainly among the smaller fry. Husband and wife thieves, with a small child as cover, seem particularly prominent. A stake-out designed to catch a gang of professionals proves less successful. But the highlight is an interview with one of Marks & Spencer's least favourite customers. *Megan Brooks steals clothes from the store, damages* them and claims refunds. She says that on a good day she can net £1,300. Prison has not deterred her.

Horizon: Air Crash — the Deadly Puzzle
BBC2, 9.00pm

In June 1992 a Boeing 737 heading for Colombia crashed in the Panamanian jungle, killing all 47 passengers and crew. The film covers the year-long investigation by Panamanian and American experts to establish the cause of the tragedy. The remote site of the crash meant that it took a day for searchers to reach the wreckage. Some received snake bites in the process. The evidence was scattered and its messages puzzling. Only with the discovery of the flight recorder was it possible to track the aircraft's final minutes. These are fascinatingly reconstructed in a computer simulation, with pilots brought to "fly" the data. As this is a detective story, it would be wrong to reveal the outcome. Be assured, however, that it grips to the last.

An Astonished Eye
Channel 4, 11.00pm

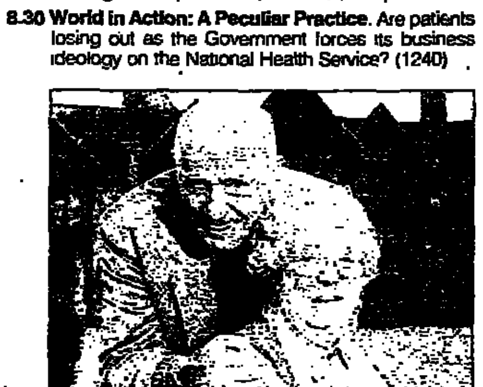
Albert Hunt, a writer, teacher and pioneer of radical community theatre, presents a video diary put together over 18 months in Londonderry. Hunt's aim is to escape from the negative image of Northern Ireland and look for signs of reconciliation and hope. The film is built around four men of the city who in different ways have tried to bridge the Catholic-Protestant divide. *Their efforts are wholly admirable and so is* Hunt's attempt to give them wider exposure. At the same time there is depressing evidence of an *unwillingness to forgive and forget. For all the talk of* inventing a new future for Londonderry, the old, bitter past, from Bloody Sunday of recent memory back to the Battle of the Boyne, still looms large.

Richardson on Picasso
BBC2, 10.00pm

John Richardson's accessible series on turning points in the career of Pablo Picasso reaches 1909. In that year the artist left Paris for the Catalan hill town of Horta del Ebro where he had spent part of his boyhood. In tow was his current mistress, Fernande Olivier. Puritanical spinsters who disapproved of the liaison threw stones at the couple's window. *Picasso retaliated* with revolver shots. More important, the 13-week stay saw Picasso make the decisive step towards cubism. *The style evolved first in his paintings of the town and* later in his triumphant sculpture of Fernande's head. The paintings, and footage of the Catalan landscape, are embellished by Richardson's informal but informed commentary. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (30110785)
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (8393172) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (3115795)
10.00 The Time ... The Place (s) (2059795)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine programme (38819882) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8709795)
12.30 Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (3836820) **12.55 Coronation Street** (r). (Teletext) (s) (3811511) **1.25 Home and Away.** Australian family drama (Teletext) (97517240)
1.55 Capital Woman Anneka Rice learns how Chinese astrology can find ideal partners (s) (60198022) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (43652337) **2.50 The Young Doctors.** Hospital drama (3135172)
3.20 ITN News headlines (3907375) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8906646)
3.30 Tots TV (s) (9187646) **3.40 Rainbow** (7623578) **3.50 Talespin.** High-flying animated tales (r) (s) (1240356) **4.20 Harry's Mad** (s) (2137849) **4.50 Art Attack** with Neil Buchanan (s) (9171882)
5.10 Home and Away *(r). (Teletext) (5428849)*
5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Teletext) Weather (777172)
6.00 London Tonight *with Alastair Stewart and Fiona* Foster. (Teletext) (75443)
7.00 Wish You Were Here ... ? Reports from Goa, a Sixties weekend in Minehead and Europe's highest ski area. (Teletext) (s) (3085)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (s) (849)
8.00 Law and Disorder. Courtroom comedy series starring Penelope Keith. (Teletext) (2733)
8.30 World in Action: A Peculiar Practice. Are patients losing out as the Government forces its business ideology on the National Health Service? (1240)



Dickens of a find for Wilson, Hird (9.00pm)

9.00 Under the Hammer. Richard Wilson and Jan Francis discover an unpublished manuscript by Charles Dickens at the Bovington stately home. With guest star Thora Hird. (Teletext) (s) (4801)
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald. (Teletext) and *weather (58288)* ***10.30 London Tonight*** (Teletext) and weather (892085)
10.40 Dave Allen (r) (s) (167795)
11.10 Magnum. Hawaii-based private detective series starring Tom Selleck (297066)
12.00 The Little Picture Show. Film and video review with Mariella Frostrup (91842)
1.00am Shannon's Deal. American crime drama series (51757)
2.00 Beyond Reality. Adventures of two investigative parapsychologists (82115)
2.30 Sport AM with Bob Symonds (59824)
3.30 FILM: Vault of Horror (1973) starring Daniel Massey and Terry-Thomas. When five men are locked in a mysterious underground room they relate horror stories to pass the time. Directed by Roy Ward Baker (80047)
5.00 Hollywood Report (r) (s) (18950)
5.30 ITN Morning News (91134). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors. Animated adventures (r) (6199608)
7.00 The Big Breakfast. Early-morning mayhem with Gaby Roslin and a mystery presenter (98443)
9.00 Sabotage. Women-only quiz hosted by Maria McErlane (s) (35337)
9.30 Schools: Geography Start Here! (1768117) **9.46** Talk, Write and Read (4118838) **10.02** Science Start Here! *(4535733)* ***10.18*** *World Studies* Tourism (4514240) **10.40** The English Programme (9624511) **11.07** Time for Maths (7555511) **11.18** Mathsbook (7579191) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (3630530) **11.45** Junior Technology (3635085)
12.00 Right to Reply. A repeat of Saturday's programme. (Teletext) (s) (48801)
12.30 Sesame Street. *Early learning series for the under-fives* (11462)
1.30 Bobobobs Environmental adventures in outer space (r) (64337)
2.00 Homefront. The continuing saga of three Second World War veterans and their struggle to adapt to civilian life. Robert is close to death from a chemical spill (s) (7527530)
2.55 Passage out of Paradise. In celebration of Australia's bicentenary in 1988, Balinese fishing *boats race across the Timor Sea (3267917)*
3.55 Nature Perfected. A repeat of last Friday's programme that looked at how a garden can act as a display of power and wealth. (Teletext) (6666172)
4.30 Countdown. Word and numbers game presented by Richard Whiteley (Teletext) (s) (462)
5.00 The Late, Late Show Gay Byrne hosts Dublin's topical chat and music show (s) (2658)
6.00 Don't Forget Your Toothbrush with Chris Evans. A repeat of Saturday's show (s) (73085)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Zeinab Badawi and Shahnaz Pakravan. (Teletext) and weather (930511) **7.50 Comment** (Teletext) (127849)
8.00 Brookside. The lives and loves of the neighbours living in a suburban Merseyside cul-de-sac. (Teletext) (s) (7725)
8.30 Desmond's. Comedy series set in a barber shop in Peckham. Who is the author of an anonymous letter that is delivered to Desmond? (r) (Teletext) (s) (9882)
9.00 CHOICE **Cutting Edge: Shops and Robbers** (Teletext) (2443)
10.00 Homicide: Life on the Street. *Last in the series of* gritty American police dramas. Pembleton and Bayliss become embroiled in the murky world of sado-masochism while investigating a murder. Meanwhile, Lewis and Crossetti hunt for a killer who is obsessed with fountain pens. (Teletext) (s) (5530)



A new future for Londonderry? (11.00pm)

11.00 CHOICE **An Astonished Eye** (668356)
12.35am Let the Blood Run Free. The last episode in the black comedy series set in an Australian hospital (r) (s) (4302863)
1.05 Town and Country. Singer-songwriter John Prine introduces k d lang, performing her version of Roy Orbison's "Cryin'" (r) (s) (2909221). Ends at **2.05**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Kevin Greening (FM only) **7.00** Steve Wright **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Emma Freud with the Lunchtime Show **2.00** Mark *Goodier* **4.00** Nicky Campbell **7.00** Evening Session with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq **9.00** Brit Report: Mark Goodier reports from the Brit Awards at Alexandra Palace in London **10.00** Mark Radcliffe live from Manchester **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Home-a-Plenty: See Choice **8.00** Round the Horne **8.30** Big Band Special: BBC Big Band under Barry Forgie **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Jazz Score **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather with Jazz Notes **1.00** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning *Edition* **9.00** *Take Five with Diane* Youdale **9.55** The Jungle Book: New five-part dramatisation of the stories by Rudyard Kipling **10.25** Johnnie Walker with the AM Alternative **12.30pm** Body Talk **1.10** The Crunch **2.30** BFBS Worldwide **4.05** John Inverdale's Drive-In **6.30** Kiss Me Quick **7.15** Benjamin Black: New four-part series about the son of yuppie parents **7.30** Champion Sport, including at **8.00** Southampton v Liverpool **10.10** Fabulous! **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin; Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.15** The Learning World **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** The Art of Travel **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Health Matters **8.30** Anything Goes **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Unconsidered Trifles **9.30** World Music with Andy Kershaw **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News Summary **10.01** This is Your Sport? **10.30** The Vintage Chart Show **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin: News in German **Noon** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Slightly Foxed **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off *the Shelf: To the Lighthouse* **2.45** The Dance Selection **3.00** News **3.15** Opera of the Week **4.00** News **4.10** British News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell: News in German **5.00** News **5.05** World Business Report Special **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** *Kaleidoskop* **8.00** *News* **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.10** British News **10.15** Meridian **10.45** *Sports Roundup* **11.00** News **11.05** World Business Report **11.15** On Screen **11.30** Multitrack 1 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Screenplay **1.00** *World News* **1.05** *Outlook* **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Health Matters **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Slightly Foxed **3.00** World News **3.10** British News **3.15** Sports **3.30** *John Peel* **4.00** World News **4.15** Health Matters

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Richard Astbury **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Mendelssohn *(Violin Concerto in E minor)* **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Margaret Howard **7.00** Musical Landscapes: Music inspired by Hampshire **8.00** Evening Concert: See Choice **10.00** *Michael Mappin* **1.00-6.00am** André Leon

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Graham Dene **4.00** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** N.J. Williams **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Paul Coyte

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (49903443) **2.20-2.50** Yan Can Cook (43677646) **5.10-5.40** Swot or Wot? (5428849) **6.00** Home and Away (750511) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather and Anglia News (180269) **10.30** Anglia News and Weather (892085) **10.40** Love Call (792801) **11.40** Street Legal (295733) **12.35am** Sword of Honour (7603196) **1.35** Sport AM (7573641) **2.30** Memories of 1970-1989 (59824) **3.30** The Beat (1084196) **4.25** Jobfinder (5520009) **5.00-5.30** America's Top Ten (18950)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55 Shortland Street (49903443) **2.20** Cooking at the Academy (43677646) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (3135172) **5.10-5.40** Swot or Wot? (5428849) **6.00** Home and Away (750511) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (180269) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (892085) **11.10** *The Monday Night Fight* (949917) **12.10am** First Love (484888) **1.55** Wanted Dead or Alive (1831641) **2.25** Love at First Sight (3496573) **2.55** Sport AM *(1485641)* ***3.50*** *Hollywood Report* (16807554) **4.15** Jobfinder (6026776) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (3896912)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (49903443) **2.20-2.50** Cooking at the Academy (43677646) **6.00** HTV News (135) **6.30-7.00** Hannah USA (337) **10.30-10.40** HTV West News and Weather (892085) **11.10** Roadrunner (242068) **11.40** Spotlight (402646) **12.10am** Grapevine (1278844) **12.35** Sword of Honour (7603196) **1.35** Sport AM (7573641) **2.30** Memories of 1970-1989 (59824) **3.30** The Beat (1084196) **4.25** Jobfinder (5520009) **5.00-5.30** America's Top Ten (18950)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.00-6.30 Wales at Six (135) **10.30-10.40** HTV Wales News and Weather (892085) **11.10** Voyage around Africa (579207) **11.55-12.10pm** Rock Sport (393559)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (3115795) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (8709795) **1.55** A Country Practice (49903443) **2.20** Houseparty (43677646) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (3135172) **3.25-3.30** *Meridian News and Weather (8906646)* **6.00** Meridian Tonight (135) **6.30-7.00** Country Ways (337) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (892085) **11.10** Business *North and South (242068)* **11.40-12.00pm** Sledge Hammer (513284) **5.00am-5.30** Freescreen (18950)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (49903443) **2.20-2.45** Wish You Were Here...? (43653066) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (197424) **6.30-7.00** Put it in Writing (337) **10.30-10.40** Tyne Tees News and Weather (892085) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (211646) **12.05am** Sail the World (6495825) **12.35** Film: The Norman Swordsman. Period adventure starring Mark Damon, Alan Collins (989776) **2.30** The New Music (59824) **3.30** ITV Chart Show (1084196) **4.25-5.30** Jobfinder (3273283)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry Latest (3115795). **12.20pm-12.30** Westcountry Latest (8709795) **1.55** The Young Doctors (80198022) **2.25-2.55** Gardening Time (43676917) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry Latest (8906646) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (75443) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry Latest (892085) **11.10** The Powers That Be (538375) **11.35** The Trials of Rosie O'Neill *Environmental Robin Hood* (298820) **12.30am** My Story (5142644) **12.35** Sword of Honour (7603196) **1.35** Sport AM (7573641) **2.30** Memories of 1970-*1989 (59824)* **3.30** *The Beat (1084196)* **4.25** Jobfinder (5520009) **5.00-5.30** America's Top Ten (18950)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (49903443) **2.20-2.45** Wish You Were Here...? (43653066) **5.55** Calendar (197424) **6.30-7.00** Enterprize 94 (337) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (211646) **12.05am** Sail the World (6495825) **12.35** Film: The Norman Swordsman (Mark Damon, Alan Collins) (989776) **2.30** The New Music (59824) **3.30** ITV Chart Show (1084196) **4.25-5.30** Jobfinder (3273283)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (98443) **9.00** Sabotage (35337) **9.30** Ysgolion (108795) **12.00pm** Right To Reply (48801) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (65066) **1.00** Roseanne Aliens (91530) **1.30** Blossom (64337) **2.00** Homefront Holler Than Thou (7527530) **2.55** The Oprah Winfrey Show Angry Teachers (3022511) **3.45** Laurel And Hardy (9164795) **4.00** Slot 23 (578) **4.00** Ty Chwith (8767801) **4.20** Wil Wat (7275356) **4.35** Llun (6805066) **5.00** Batman Give 'Em The Axe (4191) **5.30** Countdown (714) **6.00** Newyddion 6/ News (845153) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (747172) **6.25** Heno (171511) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (229511) *7.25 Steil P rodas (666559)* **8.00** Mr-ladron Merched Y Mr (7725) **8.30** Newyddion/news (9882) **9.00** Sgorio (2443) **10.00** Brookside (49530) **10.30** Roseanne Two Down, One To *Go (65578)* ***11.00*** *Homicide - Life On The* Street: See No Evil (928424) **11.55** Secret History: White Lies (921646)

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: European Media Empires
6.55 Weather **7.00 On Air:** Mozart *(Symphony No 15 in G, K124)*; Mendelssohn (Song without Words, Book 7 No 37); Bizet (Overture, Patrie); Telemann *(Concerto in A minor)*; Chopin (Polonaise in C minor, Op 40 No 2); Strauss (Metamorphosen)
9.00 Composers of the Week: Alan Rawsthorne and John Ireland. Rawsthorne (Overture, Street Corner; Theme and Variations for two violins); Ireland (Fantasy-Sonata); Rawsthorne (Symphonic Studies); Ireland (Five XVIth-century Songs)
10.05 Musical Encounters: Composers and performers with Manchester connections. Johann Strauss, son (Artist's Life); Brahms (Piano Trio No 3, Op 101); **10.40** *Artist of the Week:* John Ogdon, piano, plays Tchaikovsky (Piano Concerto No 1 in B flat minor); **11.14** John Foulds (Aquarelles, Op 32); Shostakovich (Symphonic Poem, October, Op 131); **11.45** Philip Wilby (Shadow Songs, *in Memoriam HM)*
12.00 Faust and the Devil: Excerpts from works by Gounod, Boito and Busoni
1.00pm News 1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert, live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Mozart (Sonata in B flat, K454); *Elgar (Violin Sonata* in E minor, Op 82)
2.00 A Dutch Retrospect: Webern (Passacaglia, Op 1); Bruckner *(Symphony No 2 in C minor)*
3.30 Victor Hugo Songs: Felicity Lott, soprano, and Graham Johnson, piano, perform *settings of Hugo's poems by* French composers
3.45 Music for Organ: David Sanger plays Mozart (Fantasia *in F minor, K608)*; Franck (Fantaisie in A); Reger (Fantasy and Fugue on Bach)
4.30 A Different Rhythm: The new *wave in British jazz*
5.00 The Music Machine: Mike Edwards discusses computer sampling
5.15 In Tune: *A special edition for* St Valentine's Day. Nielsen (Love Duet, Saul and David, Act 1); Chopin (Scherzo in C *sharp minor, Op 39)*; Prokofiev (Summer Night); Mozart (Rondo for violin and orchestra, K373)
7.30 BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier performs Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 3 in D minor: Grigory Sokolov); Elena Firsova (Stanzas, Op 13); Mussorgsky, orch Ravel (Pictures from an Exhibition)
9.05 One Man's Meat... Timothy West reveals his dislike for a 19th-century choral favourite
9.20 Youth for Hell: Satanic Rituals: Larger works related to the Faust legend
10.45 Mixing It
11.30 Music Restored: The Image of Melancholy. Helen Garrison discusses the black humour in works by Byrd, Gibbons and Holborne
12.30-12.35am News

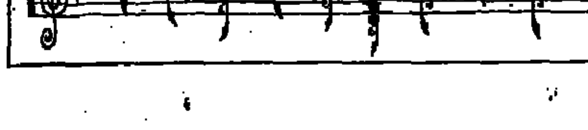
RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today *6.25 Prayer for the Day* **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** *Weather* **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** The Week on 4 **8.40** Whodunit? Simon Brett looks for the perfect solution to a fictional murder **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, presented by Melvyn Bragg and Jane Corbin. With guests Oliver Thomson, Ann Colley, Steven Rose and Steve Miller
10.00-10.30 Worldly Wise (FM only): Peter Hobday's guests are Helen Lederer, Chris Stuart and Susan Jeffreys
10.00 News; Daily Service (LW only): Led by the Rev Michael Blood, from St Paul's Church in Birmingham
10.15 The Bible (LW only): John, Read by Tony Britton (6/10) (r)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray asks Claire and Desmond Rayner how long true love can last. Serial: *Limestone and Clay*, by Lesley Glaister (1/10), incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Money Box Live: 071-580 *4444 from 10am*
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Counterpoint Music quiz **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Anyone Can See I Love You, by Marilyn Bowering. A celebration of Marilyn Monroe (r)
3.00 Learning to Live in China: Paul Crook concludes the story of his parents, who worked with Chinese peasants until their imprisonment during the Cultural Revolution
3.30 Blooming Perfect: The future of the flower industry (r)
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Natalie Wheen reviews a new production of *Turandot* by the Welsh National Opera in Cardiff, and explores the life of poet Christina Rossetti
4.45 Short Story: To Her Unready Boyfriend, by Helen Simpson. Read by Jane Whittenshaw
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Just a Minute (r)
7.00 News ***7.05 The Archers***
7.20 The Food Programme: Derek Cooper on a vegan diet *(r)*
7.45 The Monday Play: A Vital *Flaw, by Neville Watchurst.* An account of the relationship between Heinrich Himmler and his doctor. With Martin Jarvis *and John Duttine*
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Oscar and Lucinda, by Peter Carey (3/12)
11.00 ***Thy Good and Faithful Servant*** Anita Balla explores the bond of trust between Mark Tully and his personal *servant Ram Chander (r)*
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** *As World Service (LW only)*
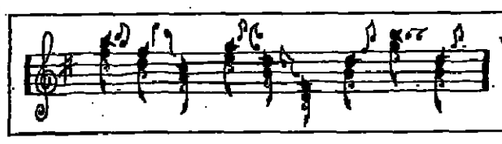
CHOICE

Horn-a-Plenty. *Radio 2, 7.00pm.*
In radio terms Kenneth Horne, who died 25 years ago, was unclassifiable: an elegant anachronism: the calm voice of reason in a mad world. He was the perfect sounding-board for the genius of *professional funsters* such as Kenneth Williams, Hugh Paddick and Betty Marsden. This tribute to him is scripted by Steve Archer and warmly presented by a non-gushing Leslie Phillips. It is a worthy curtain-raiser to the May 6 1968 edition of *Round the Horne*, which follows at 8.00pm.

Evening Concert. *Classic FM, 8.00pm.*
Have you *spotted* a *fascinating* paradox about one of the works in tonight's St Valentine's Day concert? Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 2 (played by Jorge Bolet) is shot through with what has been called the reticent strain of Russian melancholy. Yet, it owes its popularity to a film that in its time was the very essence of the *British* way of loving. *Brief Encounter*. There is another example of a successful Russian transplant tonight. It is Prokofiev's ballet score for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. **Peter Davalle**



WAKE UP TO A CLASSIC BREAKFAST SHOW.
DAILY 6-9AM.
CLASSIC FM 100-102

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am DJ Kat (73959530) **8.40** Lamb Chops (5071795) **9.10** Cartoons (4402917) **9.30** Card Sharks (29288) **9.55** Concentration (8858191) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (6907356) **10.30** Love at First Sight (99559) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (46004) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (73511) **12.30pm** E Street (23004) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (29559) **2.00** Shogun (29849) **3.00** Another World (3495581) **3.50** DJ Kat (9017375) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (1646) **6.00** Games World (7559) **6.30** E Street (1511) **7.00** M*A*S*H (2375) **7.30** Full House (7795) **8.00** Dances with Wolves (50172) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (79207) **11.00** The Untouchables (34269) **12.00** Streets of San Francisco (58592) **1.00am** Night Court (33399) **1.30-2.00** In Living Color (76592)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise Europe (44207) **9.30** 60 Minutes (76627) **11.30** Japan Business (57153) **12.30pm** News and Business (19191) **1.30** CBS News (10820) **2.30** Parliament Live (85725) **4.30** News and Business (4608) **5.00** Live at Five (383424) **7.30** Special Report (5337) **9.30** Talkback (39022) **11.30** CBS News (92530) **12.30am** ABC News (65919) **1.30** Special Report (57757) **2.30** Travel (96365) **3.30** Talkback (46860) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (31776)

SKY MOVIES
6.05am Showcase (67313269)
10.00 Lost in London (1985): An American boy has an adventure on holiday (27820)
12.00 Three Sailors and a Girl *(1953)* Crewmen stage a variety show (93424)
2.00pm Genghis Khan (1965): Omar Sharif plays the Mongol ruler (13944462)
4.05 The Black Stallion Returns (1983): A boy searches for his horse (13005066)
6.00 Fall from Grace (1990): The story of American evangelist Jim Bakker (64377288)
7.40 UK Top Ten (147578)
8.00 Far and Away (1992): Irish tenant farmer Tom Cruise and off-screen wife Nicole Kidman emigrate to America (26227646)
10.20 Dead Again (1991): Private eye Kenneth Branagh explores his past life with amnesia victim Emma Thompson (697608)
12.10am I Bought a Vampire Motorcycle (1990): A motorbike develops a taste for blood. With Neil Morrissey (893405)
2.00 Torchlight (1984): Pamela Sue Martin tries to save her addict boyfriend (63318)
3.30 Double Edge (1992): A secret agent plays a cat-and-mouse game with a hitwoman (66554). Ends at **5.00**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm The Prince and the Showgirl (1957, b/w): Laurence Olivier plays a Ruritanian prince who falls for chorus girl Marilyn Monroe (35801)
8.00 The Virgin Soldiers *(1969)* New recruits show as much inexperience in bed as in battle. With Hywel Bennett (47646)
10.00 Altered States (1980): William Hurt *stars in Ken Russell's disturbing sci-fi thriller* (98511). Ends at **11.45**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am The Girl He Left Behind (1956, b/w): The army makes a man of new recruit Tab Hunter. With Natalie Wood (62375)
8.00 A Breath of Scandal (1960): An American diplomat romances an Austrian princess (Sophia Loren) (58153)
10.00 The Bandit of Sherwood Forest (1946): With Cornel Wilde as Robin (25462)
12.00 You Were Never Lovelier (1942, b/w): Musical with Fred Astaire and Rita Hayworth (91066)
2.00pm Romeo and Juliet (1968). Franco Zeffirelli's version of Shakespeare's tragic romance *(30090375)*
4.20 One Desire (1955): A saloon owner falls for Rock Hudson (54058882)
6.00 Crazy from the Heart (1991): A teacher falls for a caretaker (48337)
8.00 True Stories: Solomon's Choice (1992): A couple go to court to find a donor for their leukaemic daughter (15795)
9.30 Special Feature: Movie Valentines (36578)
10.00 The Prince of Tides (1991): Nick Nolte unravels his traumatic past with the help of his psychiatrist lover (28614085)
12.10am Sunset Beat *(1990): The adventures of four motorcycle cops (148467)*

1.50 Are You Lonesome Tonight *(1991):* A woman discovers her missing husband's obsession with phone sex (453478)
3.25 The Damned (1964): Bizarre tale of an American entangled with an English biker gang (917776). Ends at **5.00**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Prime Bodies (90849) **7.30** World Sports (79356) **8.00** Football (50733) **10.00** Snooker (6273066) **6.00pm** Soccer (576646) **6.15** WWF Superstars (255172) **7.00** Football: Southampton *v Liverpool* (19156917) **10.15** Soccer (455676) **10.30** Snooker (89443) **12.00** Football (as 7pm) (98134) **2.00-2.30am** Snowboarding (26115)

EUROSPORT
6.00am Olympic News (27743) **6.30** Olympic Morning (31608) **7.00** Alpine Skiing (22646) **8.00** Figure Skating (23375) **9.00** Luge (7518608) **9.25** Cross Country Skiing (15582172) **12.00** Alpine Skiing (13714) **1.00pm** Speedskating (2862191) **2.15** Luge (8937830) **3.30** Alpine Skiing (90578) **4.30** Olympic News (6820) **5.00** Ice Hockey (9497882) **6.15** Ice Hockey (941462) **9.30** Tennis (70795) **11.00** Olympic News (76646) ***11.30*** *News (44172)* ***12.00*** *Ice Hockey* (35424) **2.00am** Olympic News (11283) **2.30** News (30318) **3.00-5.00** Ice Hockey (62860)

UK GOLD
7.00am The Sullivans (4445207) **7.30** Neighbours (4424714) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (4814801) **8.30** EastEnders (4813172) **9.00** The Bill (4804424) **9.30** Nanny (4452627) **10.30** Rockliffe (1232559) **11.30** The Sullivans (4049443) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (4824288) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1037172) **1.00** EastEnders (4444578) **1.30** The Bill (1036443) **2.00** Adnan Mole (2931559) **2.30** Man About the House (5386337) **3.00** Dallas (4050559) **4.00** The Colbys (4039066) **4.55** Blankety Blank (2915511) **5.25** Give Us a Clue (9408172) **5.55** Sykes (4457578) **6.30** EastEnders (5301646) **7.00** Nanny (2351085) **8.00** Sorry! (2911795) ***8.30*** *Man About the House* (2923530) **8.30** Shelley (2923530) **9.00** Rockliffe (2357269) **10.00** The Bill (4825917) **10.30** Filthy, Rich and Catflap (1856240) ***11.10*** *Top of the Pops (7382996)* **11.50** Dr Who (5385004) **12.20am** FILM: The Young Lovers (1954, b/w): Cold War romance with Odile Versois and David Knight (2513573) **2.05-7.00** Shopping (75747733)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Droibee (99795) **7.00** Ratkan II (4119375) **7.15** Gravedale *High* (604801) **7.45** Pugwall (603172) **8.15** Head to Head (9757733) **8.30** Teddy Ruxpin (20530) **9.00** Zazou U (11882) **9.30** Around the World (8987545) **10.10** Widabout (5176863) **10.30** Swamp Thing (17066) **11.00** Saved by the Bell (61199) **11.30** Beakman's World (11658) **12.00** Smoggies (31646) **12.30pm** You Can't Do That on Television (41511) **1.00** Jayce (99207) **1.30** Flash Gordon (40882) **2.00** Madeline (4917) **2.30** Shoe People (5218998) **2.45** Babar (238817) **3.15** Ratkan II (3641795) **3.20** Nawits (2043627) **3.40** *Spill and Hercules (6312801)* ***3.55*** *Head to* Head (5501801) **4.00** McGee and Me (6240) **4.30-5.00** T-Rex (2424)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Speed Racer (81191) **7.30** Hero Turtles (77993) **8.00** Rugrats (87801) **8.30** Killer Tomatoes (86172) **9.00** Capitol Critters *(77424)* ***10.00*** *Denver (43707)* ***11.00*** Clarissa (72820) **11.30** The Monkees (50578) **12.30pm** Jason Donovan (37511) **1.30** Pete and Pete (26004) **2.00** Clarissa (1789) **2.30** Killer Tomatoes (1530) **3.00** Rocko's Modern Life (69356) **4.00** Speed Racer (2682) **4.30** Hero Turtles (8068) **5.00** Clarissa (4511) **5.30** Guts (2646) **6.00** Rugrats (9659) **6.30-7.00** Monkees (3511)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Penguin Summer (4037608) **5.00** Treasure Hunters (2913153) **5.30** Terra X (4436085) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4298998) **7.00** Classic Cars (2933917) **7.30** Survival (5398172) **8.00** Secret Services (2968375) **9.00** Going Places (2348511) **10.00** *Adventure (2358998)* ***11.00-12.00*** *Trees (4429269)*

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Serious Charge (1959, b/w): *Small-town rebel Cliff Richard falsely accuses his local priest of sexual assault (3057733)*

2.00pm FILM: *I'll Be Your Sweetheart* (1945, b/w): Margaret Lockwood plays a singer trying to make it in the cut-throat world of dance hall (2503269) **3.50** Dodo (86767153) **4.00** The Flying Nun (5395085) **4.30** My Three Sons (5391269) **5.00** Beverly Hillbillies (2940207) **5.30** Donny and Marie (5315849) **6.00** I Spy (1047569) **7.00** Cannon (2346153) **8.00** The Avengers (2355801) **9.00** FILM: Twisted Nerve (1968): Billie Whitelaw takes in a psychopathic lodger (2365288) **11.00** Get Smart (4058191) **11.30-12.00** Twilight Zone (3033153)

UK LIVING
7.00am Living (8880264) **8.00** Fighting Back *(1955578)* ***8.30*** *Rendezvous (1954849)* **9.00** Days of Our Lives (6190172) **10.00** Dr Ruth (4097578) **10.30** The Young and the Restless (18073530) **11.45** Delia Smith *(1281443)* ***12.15pm*** *Stars and Signs* (58883288) **12.30** Divorce Court (9904998) **1.00** On the House (5438917) **1.30** Rendezvous (9903288) **2.00** Agony Hour (4098207) **3.00** Living (7171646) **3.45** Gladrags (69760882) **4.00** Definition (1712795) **4.30** Infatuation (1741207) **5.00** Musiquest (3107153) **5.30** Fame and Fortune (5466530) **5.45** Kilroy (1178174) **6.30** Ken Hom (1713424) **7.00** Definition (9707397) **7.30** That's Amore (1719608) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (72631269) **9.15** Watching, Watching (6095511) **9.45** FILM: A Hazard of Hearts (1987). The tale of a beautiful woman rests with a Marquis (4438172) **11.30** That's Amore (4086462) **12.00** Watching, Watching (6147080) **12.30-1.00am** Infatuation (7266478)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm *Big Brother Jake (5268)* **5.30** Zorro (6004) **6.00** Wonder Years (3917) **6.30** Catchphrase (4269) **7.00** Clued Up (8733) **7.30** Pyramid Game (3153) **8.00** All Together *Now (4153)* **8.30** GP (3288) **9.00** *Lou Grant* (29240) **10.00** Trivial Pursuit (32375) **10.30** Rhoda (18795) **11.00** Remington (76356) **12.00-1.00am** Big Valley (27660)

MTV
5.00am Wild Side (543134) **8.00** VJ Ingo (855707) **11.00** Soul (97849) **12.00** Hits *(62004)* ***1.00pm*** *VJ Simone (830882)* **3.30** The Report (6325375) **3.45** Movies (8313530) **4.00** News (6739733) **4.15** 3 from 1 (6729356) **4.30** Dial MTV (4882) **5.00** Hit *List (21269)* **7.00** *Hits (32714)* ***8.00*** *On the Piste* (6511) **8.30** David Bowie (5646) **9.00** Real World (13191) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (63733) **10.00** The Report (884578) **10.15** Movies (872733) **10.30** News (616627) **10.45** 3 from 1 (604882) **11.00** Hit List (88375) **1.00am** VJ Marijne (43318) **2.00-5.00** Videos (3610663)

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (26849) **7.00** Regional News (87462) **7.30** Asian Morning (73269) **8.00** Hindi News (25085) **8.30** *Urdu News* (5470707) **8.45** English News (4925612) **9.00** Saheel (31269) **10.00** Pakistani FILM (705917) **1.00pm** Mullah Nasrudin (86733) **1.30** FILM: Johnny: I Love You (699882) **4.30** Kiddies (8578) **5.00-6.00** Dedications (4530) **7.00** Face to Face (4375) **7.30** BBCD (9795) **8.00** English News (263275) **8.15** FILM: Paanch Qaidi (87808004) **11.15** Pardosi (494917) **12.05am** Five Past (8172115) **1.35-6.00** Sight and Sound (35907196)

TNT
Theme: Love and Marriage
7.00pm The Tender Trap (1955): A rogue pursues Debbie Reynolds (33282559)
9.05 Forever Darling (1956): A guardian angel saves a marriage (98058443)
10.45 The Swan (1956): Grace Kelly marries a Hungarian prince (92745462)
12.45am Sweethearts (1938): Jeanette MacDonald *and Nelson Eddy play warring* Broadway stars (11404080)
2.50 Royal Wedding (1951): Musical set at the time of Queen Elizabeth II's marriage. With Fred Astaire (78859486). Ends at **4.25**

CNN
Twenty-four hour news programmes

CMT
Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC
Home shopping channel

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM 88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. **GLR:** FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz.
COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY

UNSETTLED 41

LLOYD'S OFFER TO NAMES LOOKS DOOMED TO FAIL

BUSINESS

PLC AWARDS 42

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL AGAIN ON THE STOCK MARKET

MONDAY FEBRUARY 14 1994

BUSINESS EDITOR ROBERT BALLANTYNE

Marks and Spencer could back non-profit lottery bid



Davis: strict mandate

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

MARKS and Spencer, the high street chain that so far has rejected involvement in the National Lottery on ethical grounds, has promised seriously to consider backing the non-profit bid for the lottery licence led by Richard Branson and Lord Young of Graffham.

Peter Davis, Director-General of the National Lottery, has been told of M&S's change of mind in a letter stating that Tesco and Texaco, the oil group, favour the UK Lottery Foundation, the Branson-Young vehicle. Mr Davis is today braced for a mountain of bid documents from the groups seeking the licence to run the £4 billion-a-year business.

Mr Davis had a meeting on Friday with the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, the charitable body whose patron is the Queen. Sir Campbell Adamson, the NCVO president, has been named non-executive director of the Branson-Young bid company.

The amount of profit from the lottery to be returned to charity now appears to be the key to a successful bid. Oflot guidelines limit returns to operators to a maximum of 15 per cent, though most bidders suggest single figures. Only the Branson bid promises to return all the operator's profit to charity, after costs. This approach, which boosts the charity take, now seems certain to attract more operators like M&S which had previously shunned the idea.

If more outlets are attracted, it makes less viable the commercial argument put by other bidders that they can provide a larger volume of lottery returns, and hence greater returns to charity, than Branson's "amateur" non-profit bid. Eight contenders have now thrown their hats into the ring, but more bids could surface by the noon deadline. Two or more groups are believed to have discreetly informed Mr Davis's office that they wish to join the race.

Sir Ron Dearing, chairman of Camelot, initially the City's favourite among the commercial bidders, will submit 65,000 pages detailing its tender. All bidders must submit 21 copies of their proposals. The groups represent a broad range of leading British companies from Cadbury Schweppes to NM Rothschild with foreign lottery specialists providing important partners. Unlike the commercial bidders, Mr Branson, head of Virgin Atlantic Airways, and Lord Young, Cable and Wireless chairman, have promised to donate any operating profit from the lottery to charity.

Heads of the bidding groups will be interviewed by Mr Davis in March before the winner is selected in May. The lottery is expected to start operations in early 1995. Mr Davis has a strict mandate to judge the bids by security, probity and ability to maximise funds for charity. But analysts believe political imperatives could still force the Government to exercise override in the operator's selection.

M&S boost, page 1
Beneficent Branson, page 9
Making Britons rich, page 42

Talks for O'Reilly as higher bid is expected

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

TONY O'Reilly, chairman of the Irish Independent Newspapers, arrives in London this week for urgent talks with directors of Newspaper Publishing, owner of *The Independent* and the *Independent on Sunday*, in which he acquired a 24.9 per cent stake at £3.50 a share in a dawn raid two weeks ago.

His visit coincides with reports that the rival consortium led by Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN) may increase its bid for the group to £3 a share.

Concern is growing in the newspaper industry at the circulation of the two *Independent* titles. Audited figures show that *The Independent*'s circulation fell by about 10,000 sales in January, to 291,072. Papers are expected to add sales after the Christmas break. In the six months to January, *Independent* sales fell by 13.2 per cent, the biggest drop of any daily paper.

Independent on Sunday sales rose by 4.5 per cent in January, largely because of an "exclusive" story about a sex survey. However, in the six months to January, sales fell by nearly 12 per cent, the Sunday sector's biggest fall.

Mr O'Reilly is concerned that the long fight for Newspaper Publishing threatens its titles' recovery. A spokesman for his company said: "The papers now need urgent surgery. We have nearly 25 per cent and we believe that the squabbling should stop and the rescue operation begin."

Mr O'Reilly is likely to meet representatives of the rival MGN-led consortium. That consortium — backed by Newspaper Publishing's main Southern European investors and by Andreas Whittam Smith, founding editor of *The Independent* — is expected to announce its offer terms this week. It is understood that the bid could be worth £3 a share — up from the £2.50 mooted by it two weeks ago.

There are signs that institutional investors controlling the remaining 27 per cent of Newspaper Publishing are unlikely to support an offer worth less than the £3.50 a share paid in the dawn raid.

Talk of Mr O'Reilly bringing in Lord Hollick's MAI as an investor appears to have ceased. MAI is now seen to be too busy with other ventures.

Concern at spartan EBRD

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

THE European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), whose first president, Jacques Attali, resigned amid bad publicity about overspending and costs, has changed policy to a regime so spartan that some fear that the bank's main purpose of funding for Eastern Europe is suffering.

The EBRD faces a slowdown this year in the rate at which it disperses funds to its target countries of the former Soviet empire, reflecting the highly cautious approach of Jacques de Larosière, its new president.

With his first half year in office fast approaching, M de Larosière, brought in to replace M Attali, has imposed a spartan regime at the EBRD's Broadgate headquarters and, to the concern of some bank officials and directors, enforced so low a profile for the institution that it has almost disappeared from the public eye.

The flamboyant M Attali, who was forced to resign last year after criticism of heavy spending of taxpayers' money on the EBRD headquarters and staff, was also under fire for the low level of disbursement that the bank achieved under his stewardship. The stark contrast between disbursement and high spending on the bank's offices sparked press and political blitz on the institution's management and on M Attali, in particular.

Questions raised when the bank was established, about the need for a new international lending institution in addition to the World Bank and its International Finance Corporation subsidiary, were raised again with fresh vigour. However, the governments behind the EBRD pledge to maintain their support for it, even though America withheld a $70 million contribution to the bank's budget last year.

M de Larosière, a former managing director of the International Monetary Fund, was seen as the safest possible pair of hands for restoring the bank's battered image and reorganising its much-criticised management structure. Concern has, however, surfaced at the bank and in some member countries that the current president may be overdoing the caution, possibly lending support to those governments that were always sceptical about the need for the EBRD.

Financial data due for publication shortly shows that EBRD disbursements rose to 556 million ecus (£427 million) by the end of last year from 126 million ecus a year earlier. Approved projects stood at 3.8 billion ecus at the end of 1993. The bank's subscribed capital is 10 billion ecus.

However, the pick-up in disbursements last year reflects the efforts of M Attali to speed up disbursements and to be seen to be actively lending money or taking equity stakes in emerging economies of the Soviet empire. M de Larosière's dramatic cuts into the bank's budget, the continuing implementation of his sweeping management reorganisation, a decentralisation strategy and other systemic changes have inevitably caused some disaffection among EBRD officials. Even food portions in the staff canteen have been reduced.

The EBRD annual meeting, in St Petersburg, Russia, in April, is unlikely to attract the attention that last year's meeting, in London, drew at the height of the protests about M Attali's leadership. The issues of the continued bias of disbursement to the better-off economies of central Europe and wariness about deals with public-sector partners, are certain to come up.

ALAN WELLER



The Bank of England, floodlit for one evening only, which happened to coincide with the Lord Mayor's banquet to honour its tercentenary

Just testing — honestly

THE Bank of England was lit up for its 300th anniversary last week, but for only one night. Eddie George, the Governor, told guests at a Mansion House dinner in honour of the tercentenary, that the Corporation of London had not yet given permission for the floodlights to be used. But Mr George said they would be lit that evening for a test, just happening to coincide with the Lord Mayor's celebration. City diary, page 42

Glaxo plays down reports of alliance

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

GLAXO Holdings, the pharmaceuticals giant due to present its interim results on Thursday, dismissed as "pure speculation" reports that it is planning to put together a strategic alliance with one of its main rivals.

There has been talk of possible alliances among pharmaceutical groups in the wake of the widespread changes in the industry, especially in America where it awaits the Clinton administration's healthcare reforms.

Glaxo ranks number two in America, only behind Merck, the world's largest drugs company, so most agree that an alliance of some sort would make commercial sense.

Glaxo signed a joint venture agreement with Warner-Lambert late last year to develop over-the-counter versions of prescription drugs, though names of those mentioned as having been involved in more recent strategic talks include the American giants Bristol-Myers Squibb and Pfizer.

Neither company was willing to comment on the reports. Similarly, a spokesman for Glaxo would not comment on the reports, saying only: "It's pure speculation".

Analysts are hoping that Sir Paul Girolami, chairman of Glaxo Holdings, will shed some light on the rumours when the interim figures are announced.

Market pre-tax profit forecasts anticipate a solid advance to between £900 million and £980 million for the first half, compared with £819 million last time.

Week Ahead, page 41

Markets expect jump in inflation to 2.6%

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

FINANCIAL markets, nervous after last week's cut in base rates, are braced for a week which sees the first evidence of how the economy has held up in the new year and, perhaps most crucial, January's inflation figures.

Investors, rattled by continuing scandals emerging from the government and confused by last week's interest rate decision, hope two questions will be answered. Are underlying inflationary pressures beginning to build and has the British consumer begun to retrench in reaction to January's media blitz on the size of April tax rises?

Sharp falls in shares, gilts and the pound last week were triggered by the apparent contradiction between the rate cut and the Chancellor's message that growth is stronger than predicted and that tax rises will not have an impact. This was compounded by the Bank of England's warning that though inflation has turned out lower than expected in the past three months, the risks are now on the upside.

The latest business surveys have so far given no hint that confidence has begun to erode in the face of impending tax rises. A survey of independent companies by 3i, published today, confirms this generally upbeat view. The latest *3i Enterprise Barometer*, which surveyed firms in late January, concluded that the pace of recovery is accelerating. Of the 1,000 companies surveyed, 61 per cent expected higher turnover and 57 per cent predicted higher profits, the highest positive proportion since June 1989.

Ewen Macpherson, 3i chief executive, said: "Confidence among the medium-sized business sector has now grown steadily over four successive quarters. These companies reflect the pace of economic activity and their growing confidence is enormously encourag-ing for the UK as a whole."

A big point of interest this week is Wednesday's figures for January retail sales after December's 0.2 per cent fall. Anecdotal evidence from the high street suggested January started well, but that the rest of the month was unspectacular. A Verdict survey last week indicated that purchasing intentions had softened since December. The average City forecast for retail sales is for a rise in volumes of 0.8 per cent — a year on year 3.3 per cent. December's annual rate was 4 per cent.

Other key indicators of economic activity due this week are the CBI's distributive trades survey, January unemployment figures on Wednesday, forecast to show another fall, and figures for industrial production, including manufacturing, expected to show only flat to modest December growth.

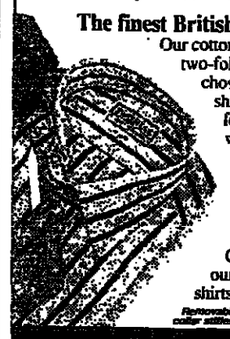
But after last week's Bank of England inflation report and the ½-point rate cut, it is this week's inflation figures which are most eagerly awaited. The markets expect headline inflation will jump from December's 1.9 per cent to about 2.6 per cent in January.

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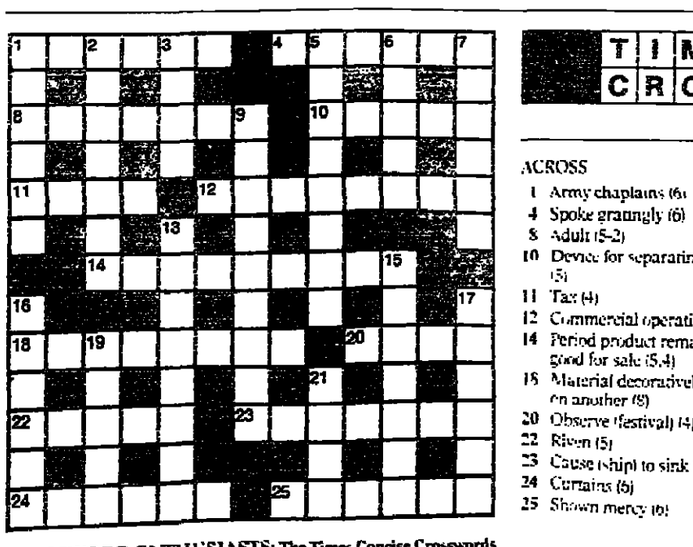
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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 88

ACROSS

1 Army chaplains (6)
4 Spoke grumpily (6)
8 Adult (5-2)
10 Device for separating light (5)
11 Tax (4)
12 Commercial operation (5)
14 Period product remains good for sale (5,4)
16 Material decoratively sewn on another (8)
20 Observe (festival) (4)
22 Riven (5)
23 Cause (ship) to sink (7)
24 Curtains (6)
25 Shown mercy (6)

DOWN

1 Filthy room (6)
2 Meaningless drawings (7)
3 Sea eagle (4)
5 Class of reptiles inc. frogs, newts (5)
6 Composure (5)
7 Patterned silk fabric (6)
9 Golfing trousers (4,5)
13 Demean (5)
15 Builder (7)
16 Analysed grammar of sentence (6)
17 Feast (6)
19 Fast dance, one-two-three hop (5)
21 Peaks intersection point of two arcs (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 87

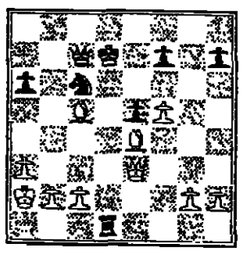
ACROSS: 3 Set 8 On cue 9 Hoedown 10 Treadle 11 Trace 12 Coarse 14 Screed 15 Rosary 17 Hector 20 Liege 21 Dismiss 24 Implode 25 Naive 26 Dig

DOWN: 1 Rout 2 Eczema 3 Seed 4 Thief 5 Tentacle 6 Locate 7 Engender 12 Cyrillic 13 Surveyor 16 Sherpa 18 Trivia 19 Added 22 Song 23 Sten

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Gallagher - McCamon, Hastings Challengers 1994. How did White exploit the exposed position of the black rook on d1?



Solution, page 30

Raymond Keene, page 9

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

AGRE
a. To torment or vex
b. Scarcely, hardly
c. A bradawl

BIWRIXLE
a. To screw up the eyes
b. To transform
c. A double whammy

SALPICON
a. A kind of trumpet
b. Stuffing for veal
c. A ceremonial dancing floor

SNAPY
a. Boggy
b. Critical, censorious
c. A small, vicious terrier

Answers on page 30